ECEMBER 25, 1948

SATURDAY NIGHT

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THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

THE FRONT PAGE

The End Of Reciprocity?

A REPORT from Ottawa says the government is now shying away from the idea of some new form of reciprocity with the United States. Plans for reciprocity—a special deal by which the tariffs between Canada and the United States would be cut down without extending the benefit of those cuts to other countries—owed their birth to Mr. Dewey, and the likelihood that he and the Republicans would win the election in the United States last month. A number of leading Republicans were apparently willing to make a special deal with Canada, while keeping all the rest of their tariff wall intact.

But the time for that sort of thing is happily past. Mr. Truman and the Democrats will no doubt follow their traditional policy. Under their Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, special deals have never been allowed; indeed Mr. Cordell Hull and his successors have vigorously opposed preferences of all sorts—including Imperial Preference. The tariff reductions resulting from each trade agreement with each country have been made available to all other countries on a "most favored nation" basis.

From our point of view a special deal with the United States is especially dangerous. We are already far too dependent on the United States for our export markets and for our prosperity. We are like a little firm that has got into the position of selling the greater part of its product either directly to a big firm or to other firms that are living on credit from the big firm. What we want—if we are going to keep our independence—is not a new contract on special terms with the big firm (although we shall be glad to sell all we can to it) but rather a strengthening of the other firms to which we sell.

In short, we want to see Britain and France and the Dominions and South America, and other countries that, directly or indirectly, are leaning so heavily on the Marshall Plan, put on their feet. We want the U.S. to buy more from them as well as from us. And this means we want the U.S. tariff wall cut all around, not just along the Canadian-American border. Besides, as our article on page 18 argues, there is always a real danger that reciprocity with the U.S. will end up as annexation to the U.S.

Power and Mr. Drew

THE point on which Mr. Drew and Mr. Howe (and, perhaps we should add, Mr. Forsey) have been misleading us during the Carleton by-election campaign relates to the proposal to build the big Des Joachims plant in 1943. Yet it is an absolutely vital point in any attempt to distribute the "blame" for the electric power shortage in Ontario.

Mr. Drew suggests that he would have been only too glad to press forward with the plant if he could have got the necessary wartime priorities for men and materials. Mr. Howe says he was quite willing to give priorities, but nobody asked for them.

But the essential point is this:—*from the national viewpoint it was not desirable to press forward with Des Joachims during the war.* Mr. Drew would have been wrong to demand priorities or allocations; Mr. Howe would have been wrong to grant them.

The demand for power, which had climbed rapidly while Canadian war industry was growing very fast, levelled off in 1943, the year when Mr. Drew became premier of Ontario. As Mr. Rodney Grey, our Assistant Financial Editor, points out in his article on page 6, Canada had reached full employment and maximum war production by that time. It is true that Mr. Howe's Power Controller was having to do a good deal of juggling of supplies to meet scattered war needs and that there were some restrictions on the civilian use of power;

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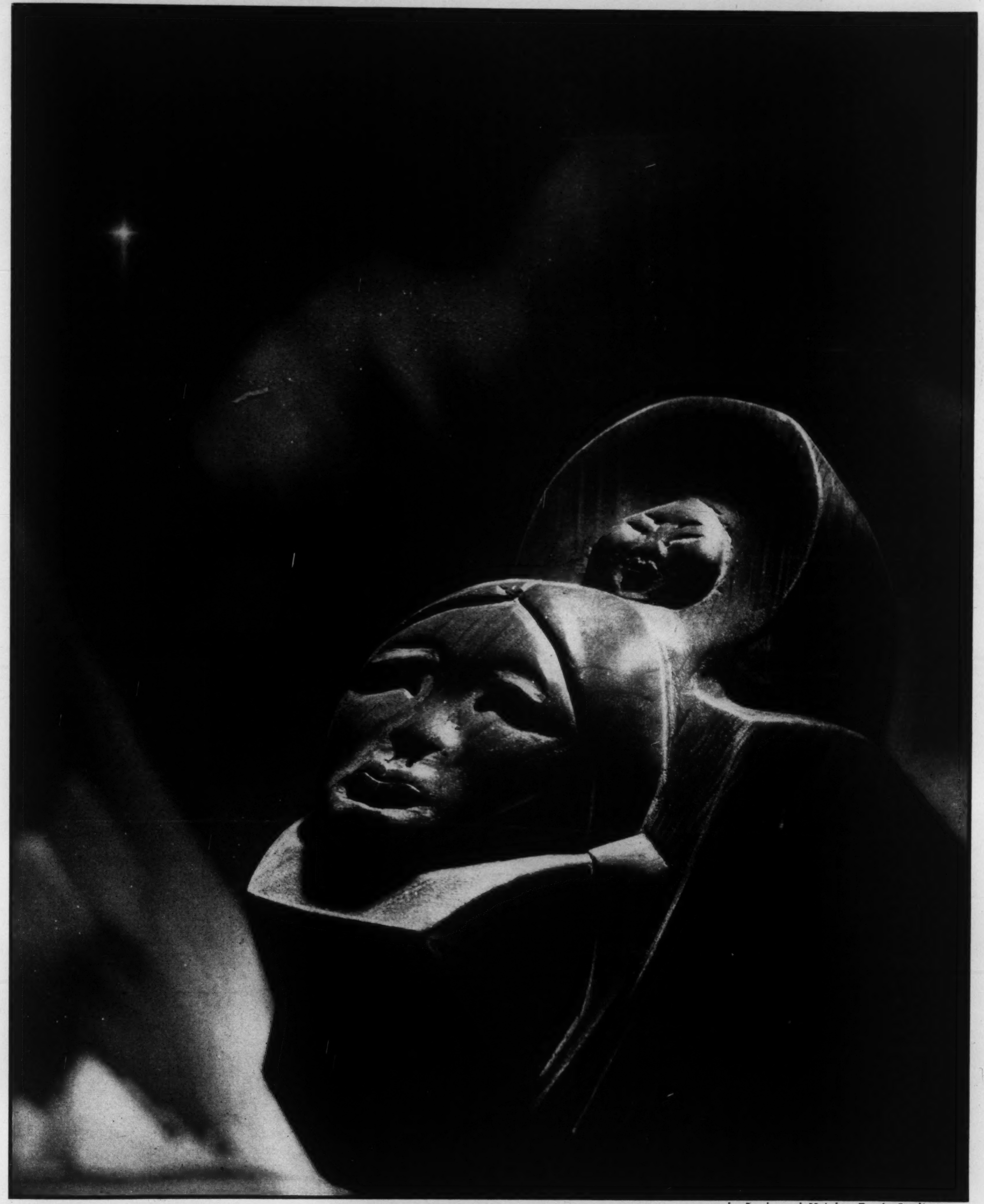

—by Lockwood Haight—Panda Studios.

ESKIMO MADONNA. A Canadian sculpture by Gloria Jefferies photographed for Saturday Night.

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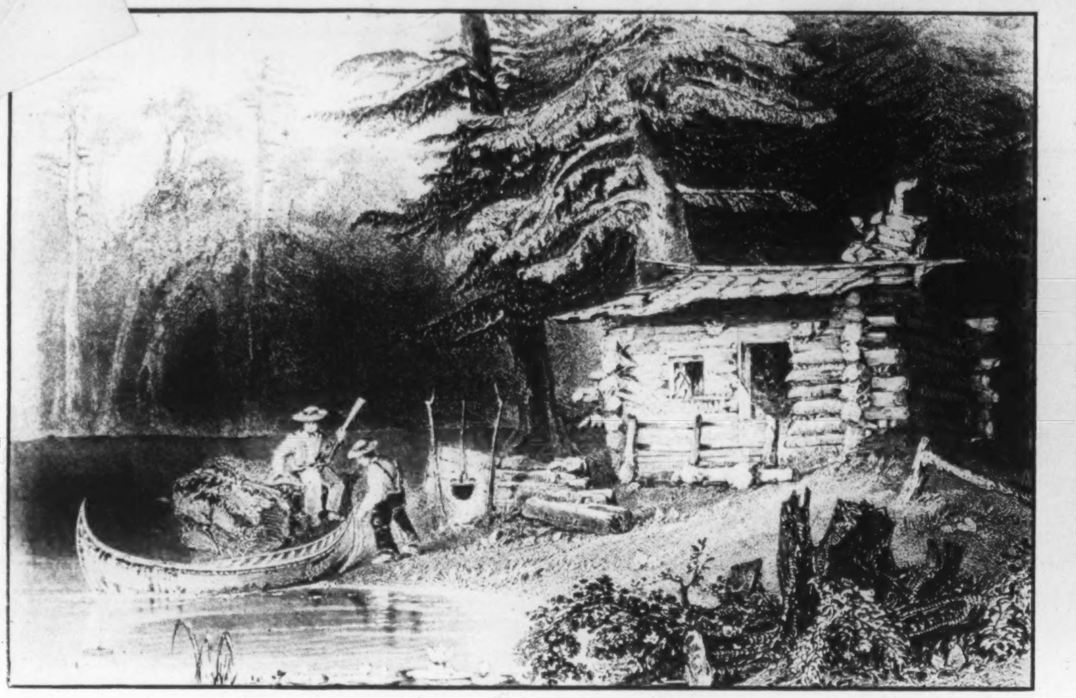

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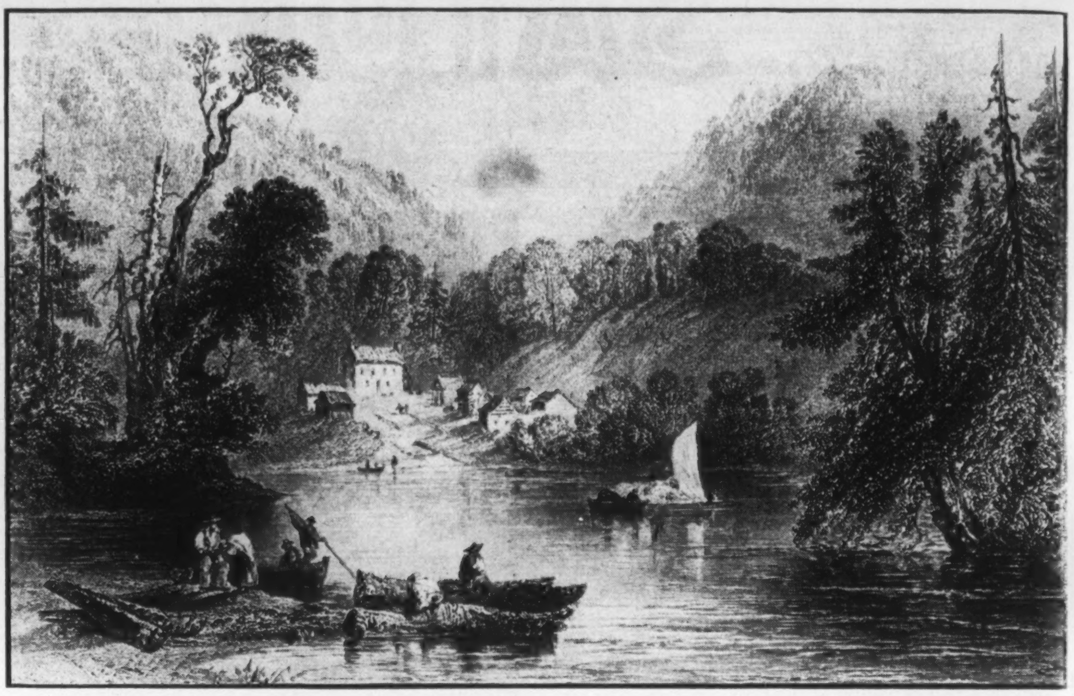

"Settler's Home on Eastern Townships Frontier"

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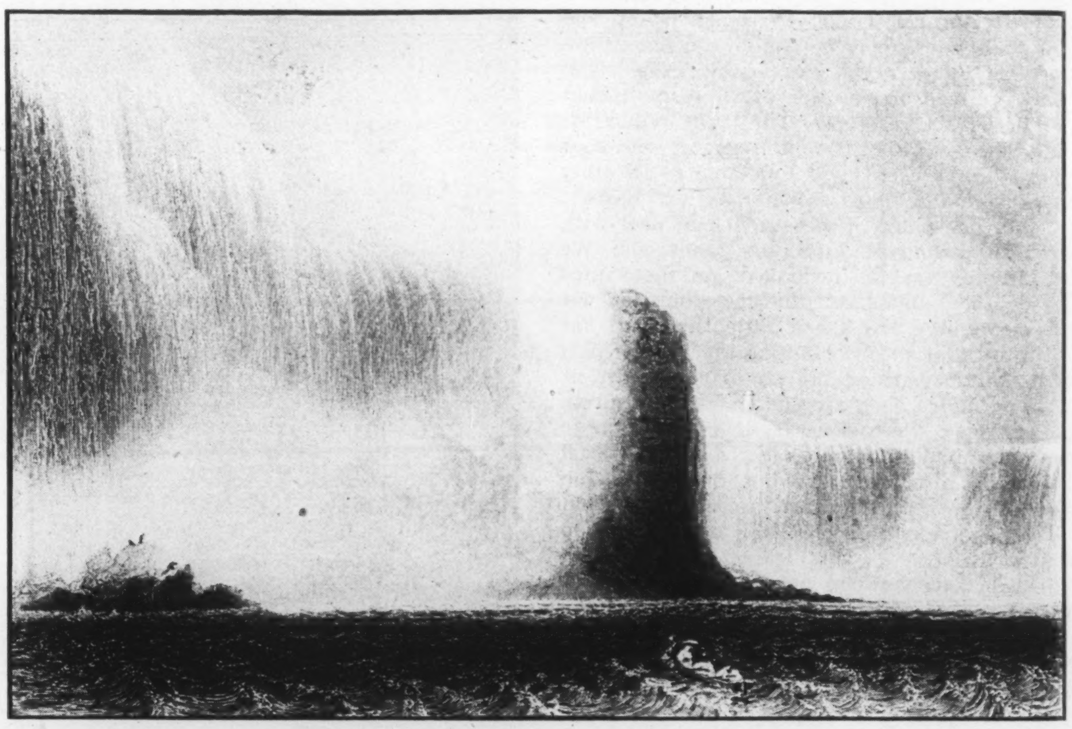

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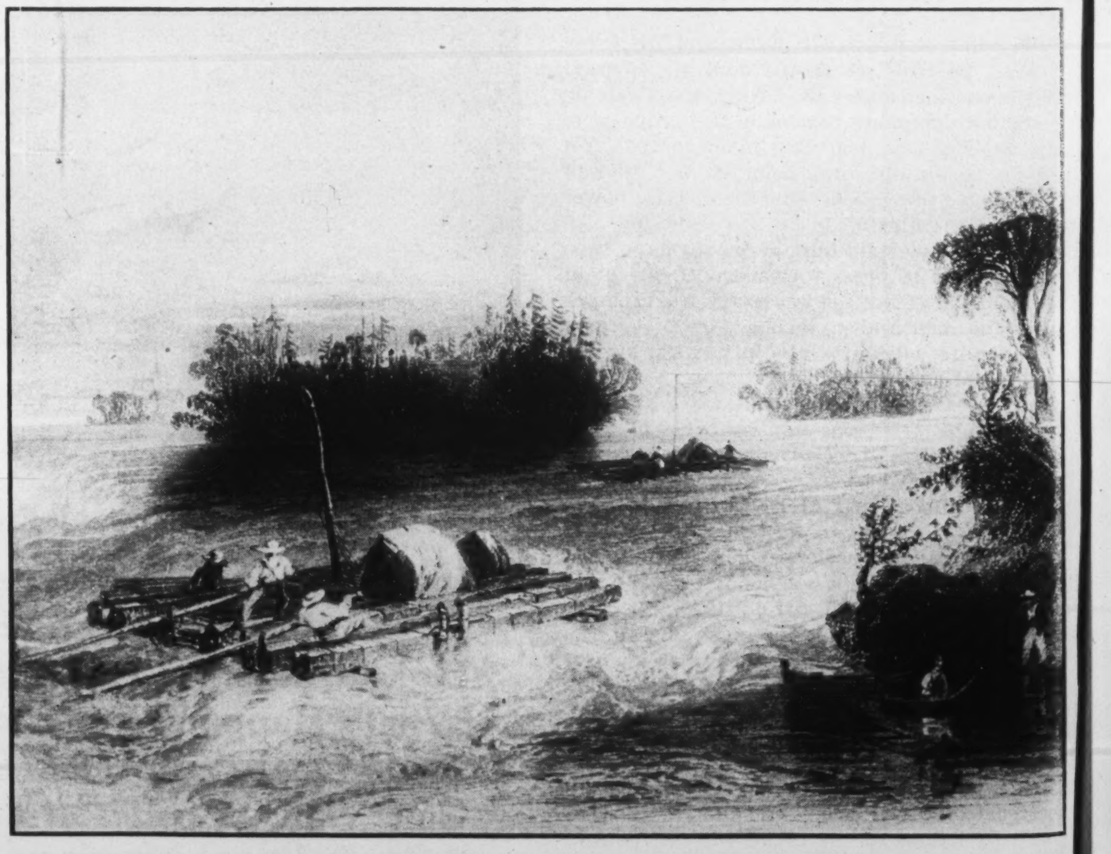

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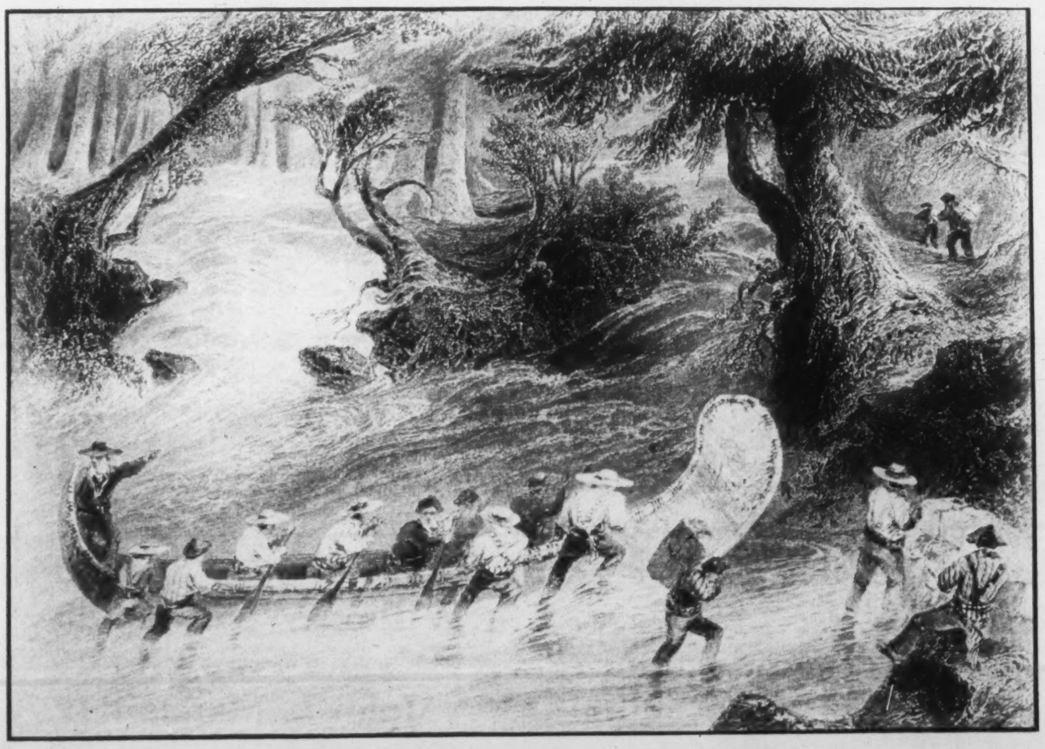

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But being conductor, arranger, teacher and musical father to nearly a hundred young ladies is only a sideline with Bell. He is also, at other hours of his habitually expanded day, Professor of Music at the Ontario College of Education and Supervisor and Director of Choral Technique on the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto. In addition he writes text books for school music courses, composes and arranges songs that are published and sold around the world, adjudicates at music festivals, lectures publicly, teaches summer schools at other universities, edits and revises a large record company's catalogue and acts as adviser to a leading publisher of sheet music.

Just this Fall Bell has made two further additions to his already overextended schedule. He has written the scripts for some of C.B.C.'s finest programs, notably the five-hour History of Music which was heard on two successive Wednesday nights early in October and which won great acclaim. And he is co-conductor (with Howard Cable) and arranger for a posh, new musical radio show that is the biggest thing yet as far as the Canadian airwaves are concerned. It goes out over a total of fifty-eight stations, more than have ever been used for any programs except a few wartime specials.

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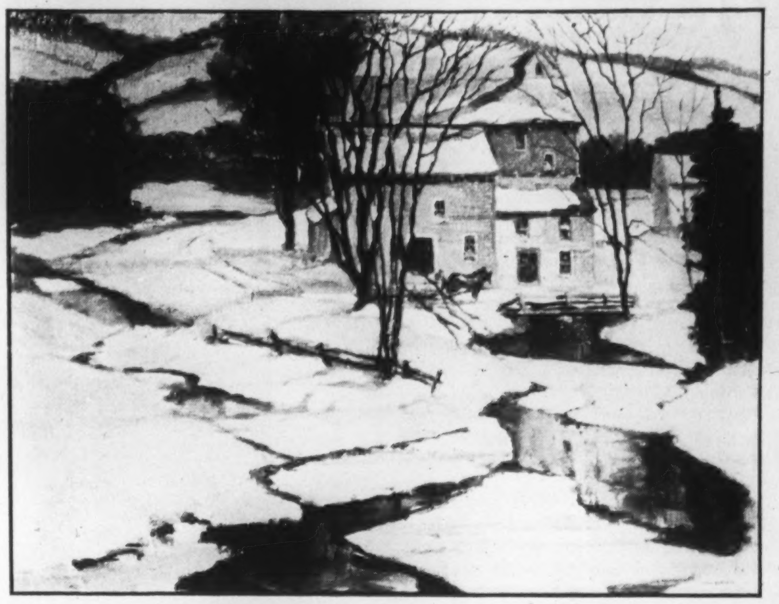
The success and mounting recognition of the Bell Singers is naturally a source of satisfaction to their leader. He has heard himself described as a "Svengali for Sixty" and has even been compared to the great Vogt of Mendelssohn Choir fame.

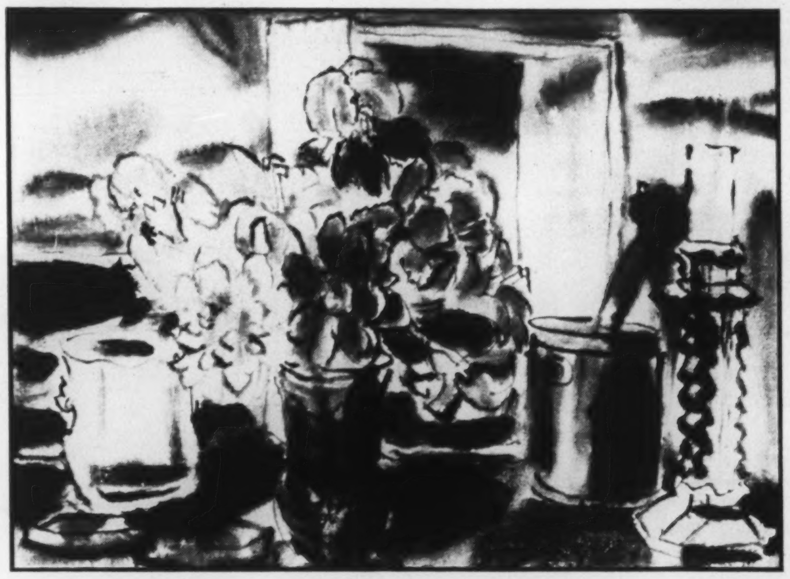
But what probably means even more to him than this critical appreciation is the fact that it is apparently the long hours he spends conducting the girls that keep him in good physical condition. Not long ago, under the pressure of friends and family, he visited a well-known doctor for a thorough check-up. He felt fine but was beginning to wonder how long he could keep up all his activities without suffering. "The bad thing about it is," he told the doctor, "that I *never* take any exercise."

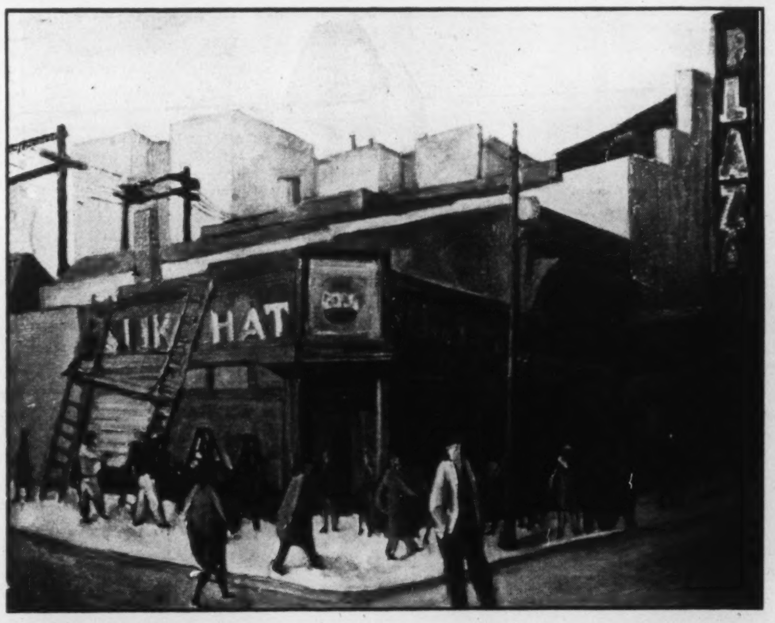
"The hell you don't!" replied the doctor. "I've watched you conduct."

With co-conductor Howard Cable, Leslie Bell presents posh radio show.

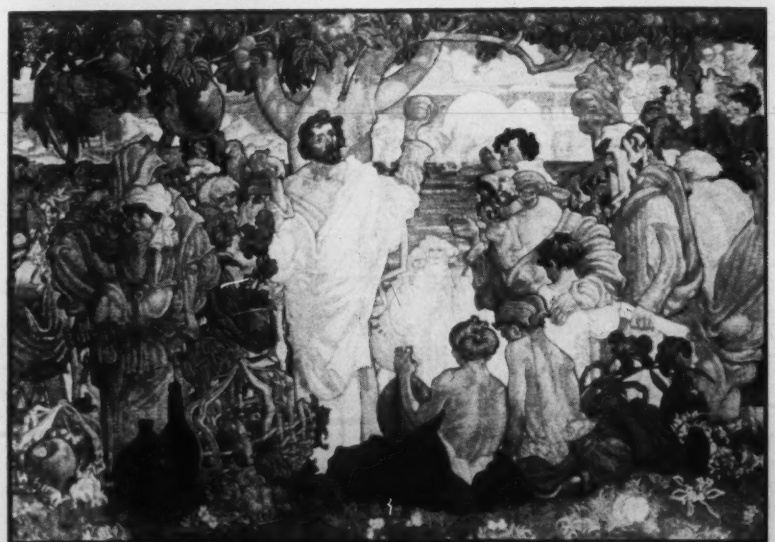
Varied Themes By Canadians

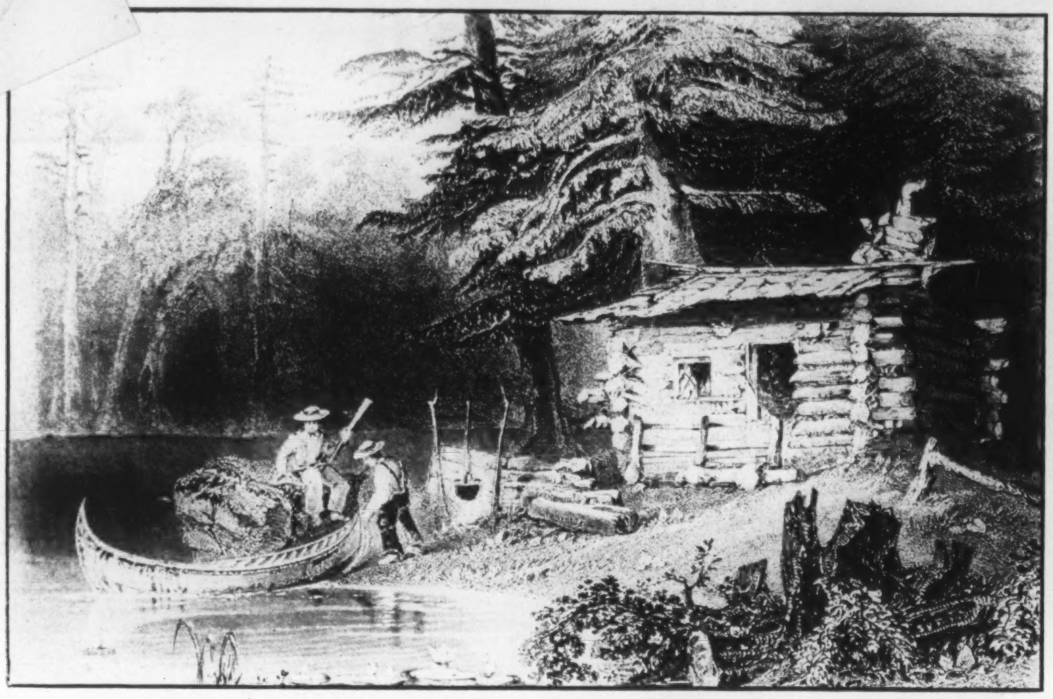

"Snow Scene" by Tom Roberts, R.C.A., O.S.A., of Port Credit, Ont.


"Summer Flowers and Candlestick", still life by gifted David Milne.



"The Silk Hat", Vancouver street scene by B.C. artist Don Jarvis.


Key panel of a mural by Winnipeg's Tom Luzny, a Brangwyn protégé.



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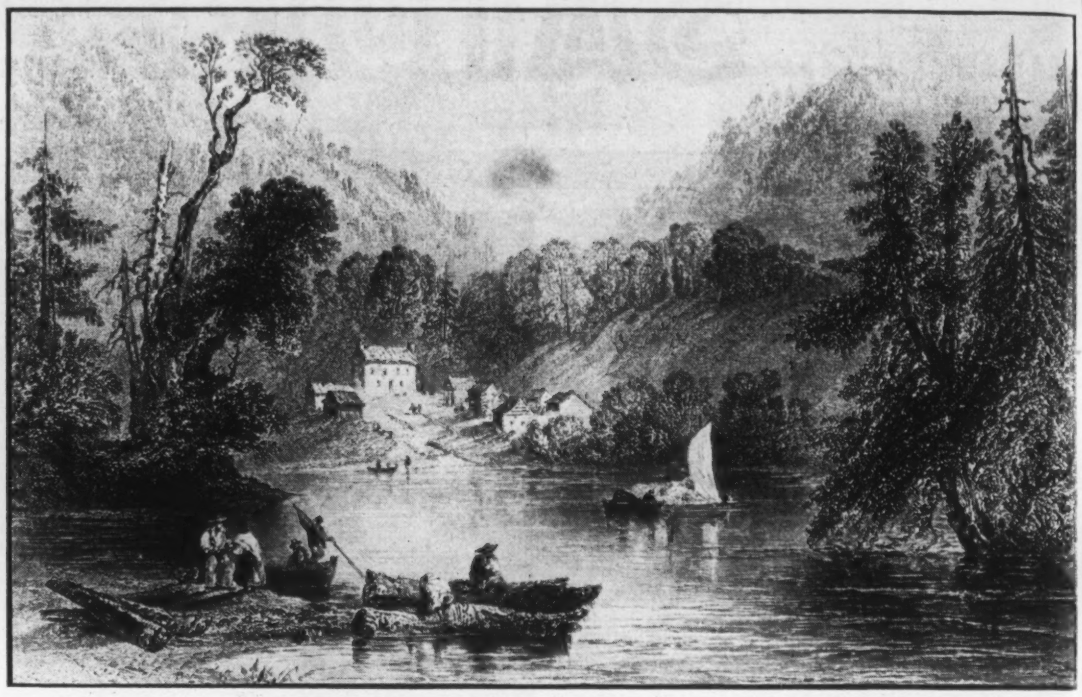

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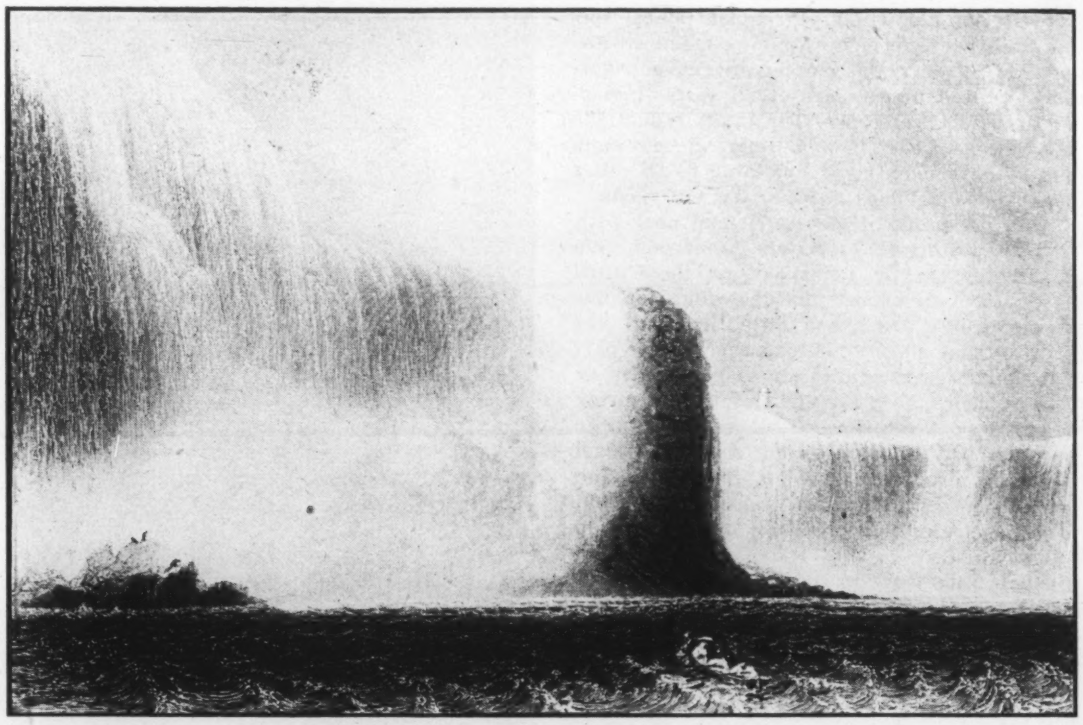

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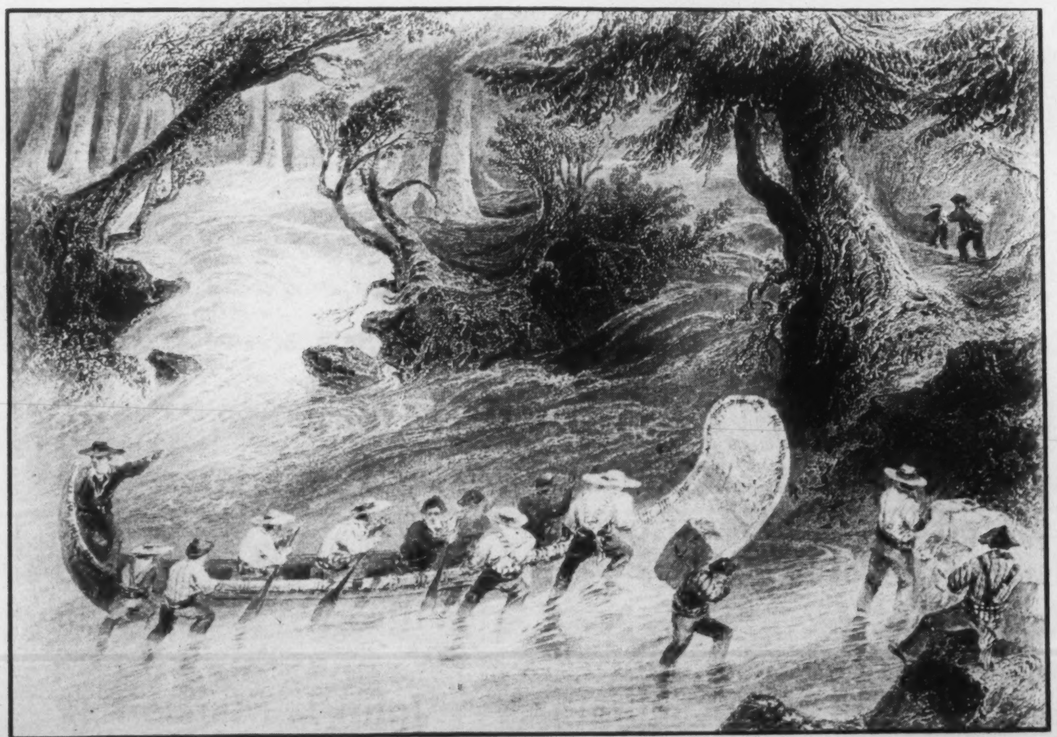

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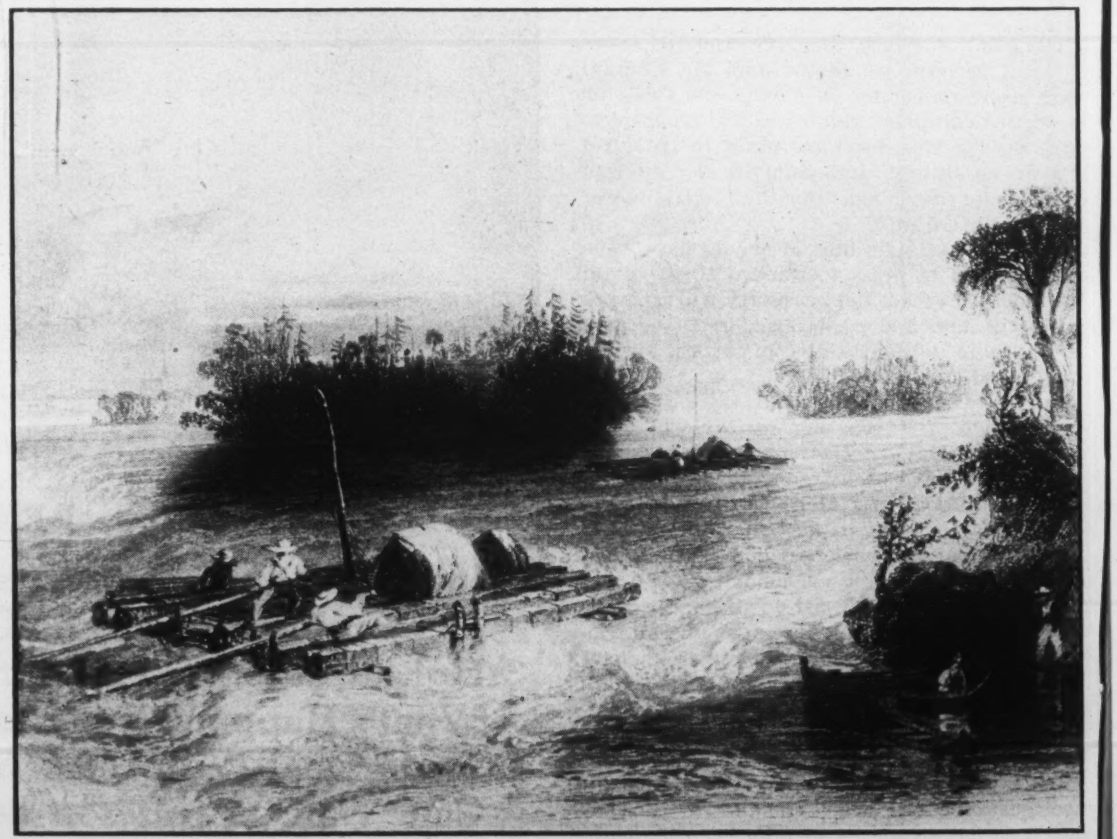

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Eye to a Future

Once or twice a year the girls sing with the Toronto Symphony and right now a movie short about them, one of the National Film Board's Canada Carries On series, is appearing on the movie circuits of twenty-four different countries. They are becoming well known in a wider and wider sphere. As a result radio men in the U.S. have shown great interest in the Bell Singers and the outcome may be a concert tour of the U.S. border cities. What may happen after that remains to be seen. It is also known that a major recording company has made a definite offer for a full album of their songs, to be produced soon.

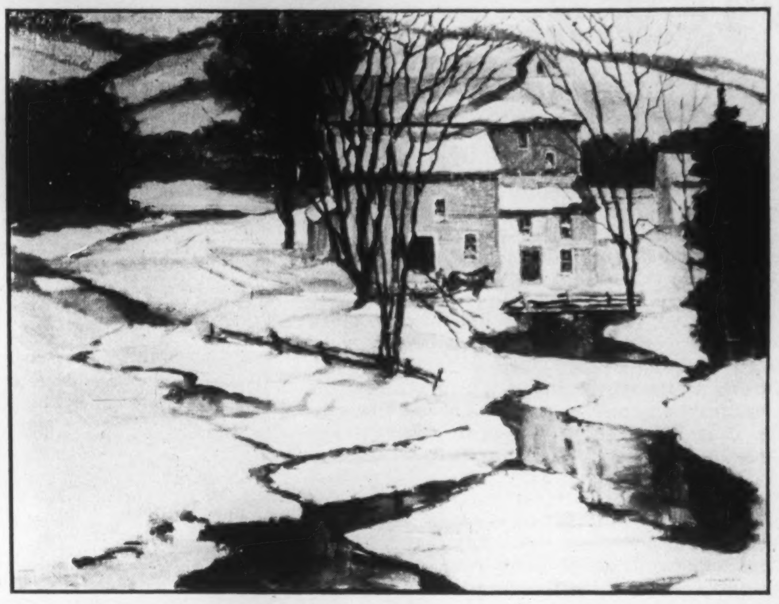
The success and mounting recognition of the Bell Singers is naturally a source of satisfaction to their leader. He has heard himself described as a "Svengali for Sixty" and has even been compared to the great Vogt of Mendelssohn Choir fame.

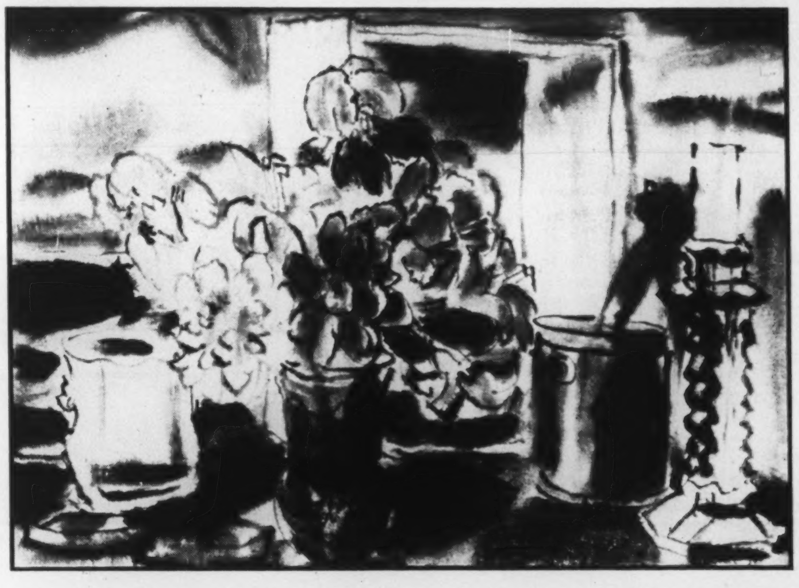
But what probably means even more to him than this critical appreciation is the fact that it is apparently the long hours he spends conducting the girls that keep him in good physical condition. Not long ago, under the pressure of friends and family, he visited a well-known doctor for a thorough check-up. He felt fine but was beginning to wonder how long he could keep up all his activities without suffering. "The bad thing about it is," he told the doctor, "that I *never* take any exercise."

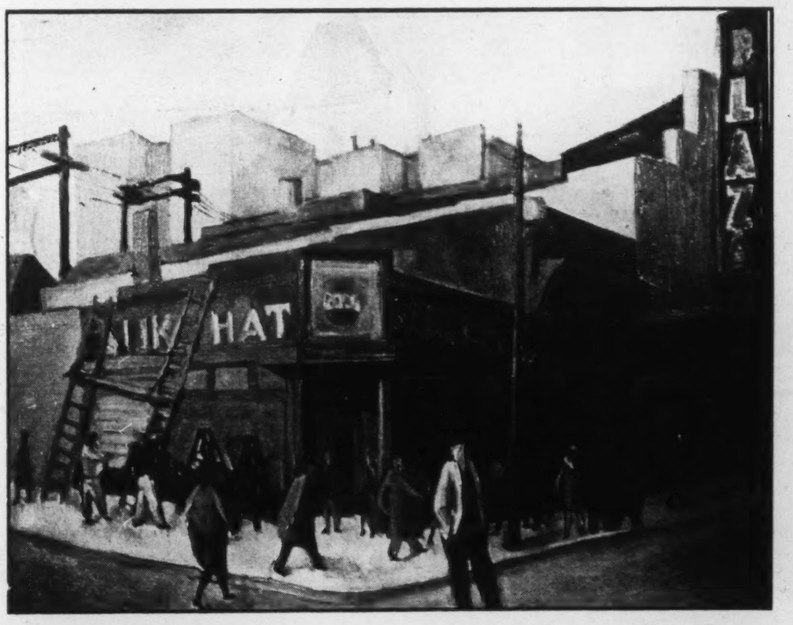
"The hell you don't!" replied the doctor. "I've watched you conduct."

With co-conductor Howard Cable, Leslie Bell presents posh radio show.

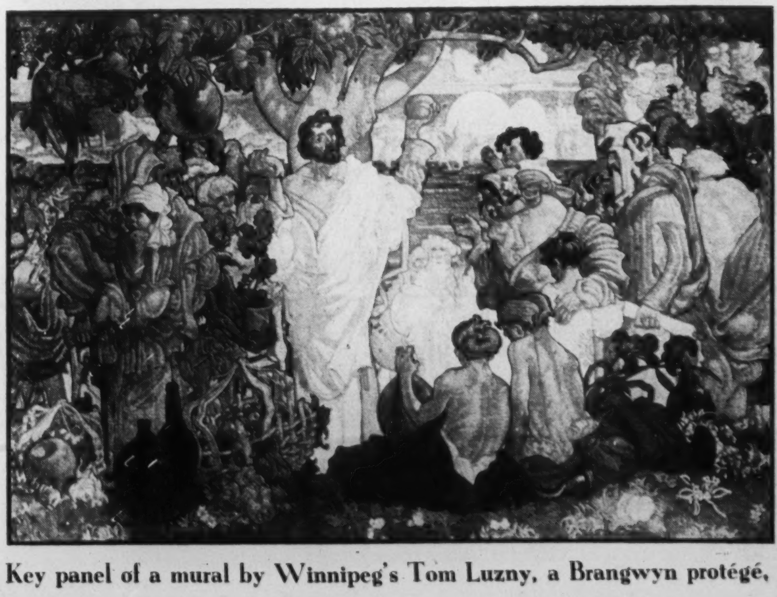
Varied Themes By Canadians


"Snow Scene" by Tom Roberts, R.C.A., O.S.A., of Port Credit, Ont.


"Summer Flowers and Candlestick", still life by gifted David Milne.



"The Silk Hat", Vancouver street scene by B.C. artist Don Jarvis.


Key panel of a mural by Winnipeg's Tom Luzny, a Brangwyn protégé,

wa View

Paved Road Across Canada

By WILFRID EGGLESTON

A TRANS-CANADA Highway has now become a matter of national pride as well as a plank in the party platforms of both Liberals and Conservatives. After at least a quarter of a century of talk about it, the time is evidently approaching when it will be possible to travel from coast to coast on a paved road. The cost is within Canada's present means, and the benefits are likely to be substantial. At the conference last week the belief was expressed that a start could be made in 1949. It is reasonable to suppose that a paved Trans-Canada Highway could be a reality in say three years' time.

The Dominion-Provincial parley at Ottawa last week was held *in camera* and the press releases said practically nothing that was not already known. But there is material for the digging, and the broad dimensions and character of the undertaking can be assessed without much difficulty.

Owing to the jealousy of certain provinces about any threat of infringement of their authority, the Trans-Canada Highway will not be a national road so much as a series of provincial highways which by mutual agreement are designated as a coast-to-coast highway. The Dominion government will obviously have to put up a good deal of the money, and this will enable it to insist upon acceptable standards of construction and safety, upon routes which will serve Canada as a whole rather than the vocal and locally influential Boards of Trade and civic bodies who are primarily concerned with attracting customers, and upon uniform signs and symbols which will give the motorist a sense of the national span of the highway.

Existing Elements

Some idea of the extent to which existing east-to-west highways provide the elements of a Trans-Canada Highway can be obtained from the following figures of existing hard-surfaced roads across Canada:

	miles
Nova Scotia	283
New Brunswick	410
Quebec	355
Ontario	584
Manitoba	262
Saskatchewan	141
Alberta	189
British Columbia	373
	2,597

The total mileage of the Trans-Canada Highway when complete will depend, of course, on the route to be followed, something which will take a good deal of acrimonious debate, one suspects, before it is settled. Also it depends upon definitions. Will P.E.I. get in on the Trans-Canada Highway program? What about Vancouver Island? And what about Newfoundland? It may well be that in time the eastern terminus of the Highway will not be regarded as being Halifax, or even Sydney, but St. John's. The view held by Prince Edward Island is that the stretch of highway between the two ferry-heads is a proper segment of the Highway, and British Columbia, by the same logic would contend that the Dominion should regard the highway running north-west from Victoria as in the same category.

Until points like these are settled, any discussion of the length of the Trans-Canada Highway must be in round figures. In my own effort to get at some approximate idea of the cost of the Trans-Canada Highway I was told that the coast-to-coast mileage of the completed road would be about 4,300 miles. The sum of the provincial totals of hard-surfaced highway which could be linked into a Trans-Canada Highway is now about 2,600 miles, of which 600 miles have been hard-surfaced since the end of the war. This leaves about 1,700 miles, not now paved, the surfacing of which might well constitute the first objective of a Trans-Canada Scheme.

At an average cost of $20,000 a mile for paving, some sort of hard-surface road could be provided, therefore, for an expenditure, no doubt shared between Dominion and provinces, of say $35 million. This is the absolute minimum figure, and would be really only a starting point, since a good deal of the unpaved road needs widening and straightening as well as surfacing.

My own quite unofficial guess would be that it would cost a minimum of $50 million to complete a passable coast-to-coast highway and that it might run anywhere from there up to double that figure. This is a tidy sum, of course, but an expenditure of $100 million, spread over several years, and divided between provinces and the Dominion, would not be out of line nor constitute a crushing burden upon the economy. If a province with less than a million people, like Alberta, can spend between ten and fifteen million dollars in a single year on road construction without federal aid (as it did last year), a five-year program of say ten million dollars a year by *all* the provinces and a like sum by the Dominion should be relatively easy to carry. The cost of a single first-class aircraft carrier would do the whole job.

The Costs Burden

The burden will, of course, be uneven, and will fall much more heavily on some provinces than others. Back in 1919 the Dominion government put up $20 million dollars in a matched-grant highways scheme, the provinces putting up dollar for dollar, but it was not until 1928 that certain provinces were able to afford to take full advantage of their share. It so happens that highway costs are much more expensive per mile because of topography in some provinces than others, and the local traffic in some of the most difficult sections is light and non-productive. (Oddly enough, while almost anyone would suspect that Prince Edward Island would enjoy cheap *per mile* costs due to light grades and gentle terrain, it is actually very costly there, since the raw materials for road construction do not exist on the island, and all have to be brought across by water.)

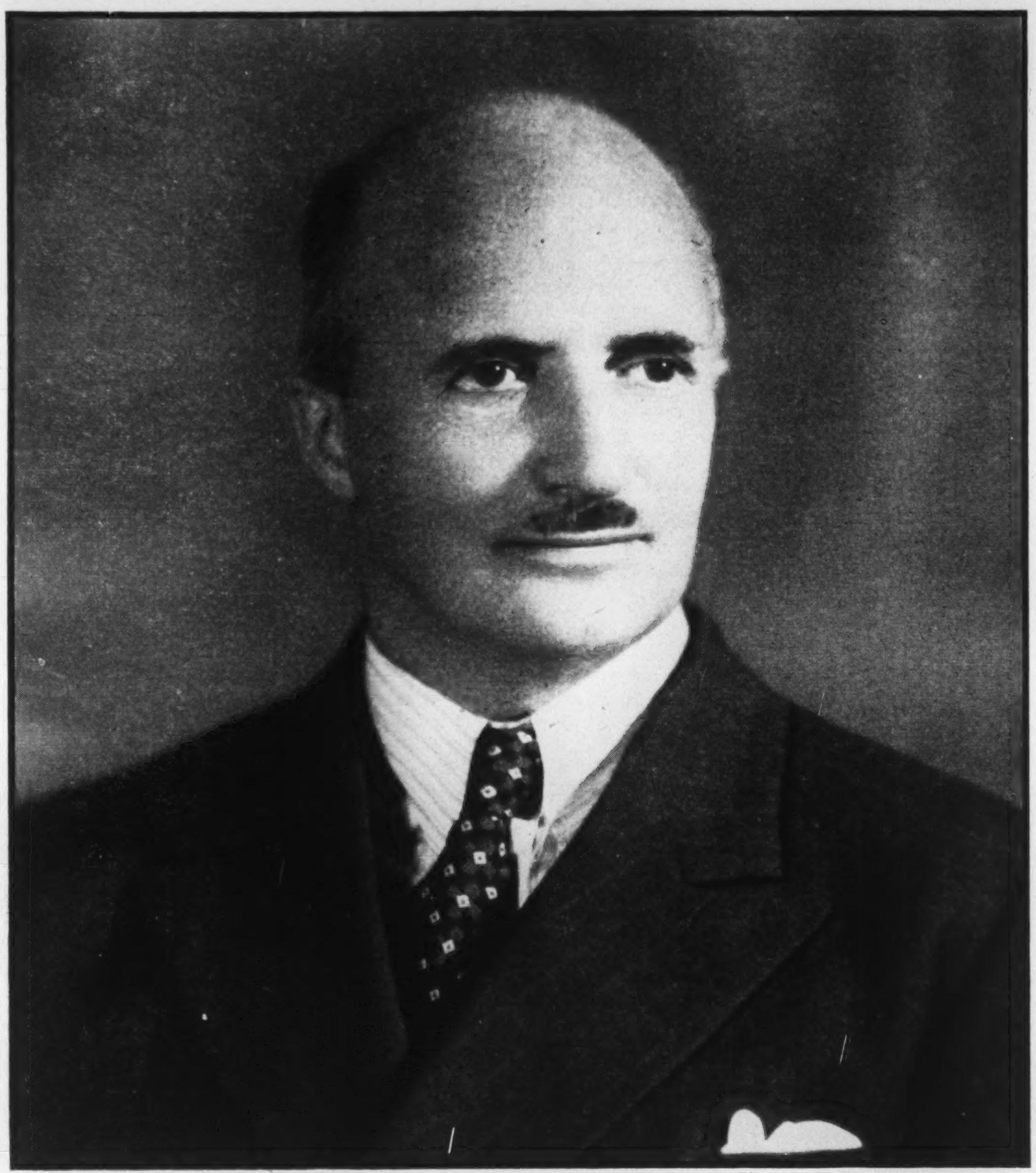
The timing of the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway depends on the level of economic activity in Canada, a factor which cannot be foreseen. A continuation of the current high levels of employment, and the abnormally high use by private investment of steel, concrete and paving materials, such as we have experienced in the past three years, will continue to discourage plans to complete the highway. Both provincial and dominion governments prepared very ambitious back-logs of capital construction in 1945, expecting a slump when hostilities ceased. At that time the Trans-Canada Highway was well up in the priority list, and had a recession occurred work would have gone forward much more vigorously than it has done so far. It follows of course that if in 1950 there is any sign of a slackening in employment or private investment, the Trans-Canada Highway will be pushed. But there is still no intention on the part of the federal government to tax the still strained resources of labor and materials by embarking on major public investment schemes, since such a policy would add to inflationary pressures. No doubt this explains the vagueness of the official announcement last week about the program for 1949. It is still impossible to be sure whether the time is ripe for a concerted drive to get the highway completed.

Meantime two things are being done. The technical experts of federal and provincial governments are pushing along the surveys and plans needed for an early start on the project, and the Dominion government is preparing a financial offer. Back in 1919, the terms were as follows: of the $20 million allotted, a flat sum of $80,000 was granted to each province, while the remainder was divided on a per capita basis. While the primary aim of the grant was to encourage a connected system of highways across the country, a good deal of latitude was allowed. About 8,700 miles of highway was built under the scheme, and students of conditional grants regarded it as one of the most satisfactory examples of Dominion-Provincial cooperation on record. Federal inspection was simple and objective, and Ottawa was able to lay down specifications of quality which had to be met in order to earn the Dominion portion of the grant.

Dollar-for-Dollar Basis

It is too soon to guess what kind of offer will be made this time, but the dollar-for-dollar basis is again being suggested, with the addition that the Dominion might pay the entire cost of some sections where the value of the route is national rather than local, as for example through sparsely settled areas, and in links with national parks which are imperative for tourist traffic.

Through quite a bit of Canada there is no argument about the route to be followed. Engineers say that the cost of building the Montreal River-Schreiber section around the north shore of Lake Superior would be such that it cannot be justified on economic grounds, and that the present Kirkland Lake-Kapuskasing route should be paved rather than spend millions on the other section. There is terrific rivalry on the prairies and in B.C. about the route to be taken through the Rockies. There are arguments, of course, for all three passes through the mountains. The southerly route is the most direct, but there is still a great deal to be done on it, and it will probably have to pass through U.S. territory for a few miles (special customs and immigration measures will be needed, and motorists would travel "in bond", shut off from the U.S. by stout fences, it is expected). The Banff-Columbia Bend route is the most scenic, and the Yellowhead has the lowest grades.



—Photo by William Notman & Son.

CONDUCTOR FOR 25 YEARS. Since 1923 B. E. Chadwick, organist of Erskine-American United Church, has led the Montreal Elgar Choir. At a recent concert Elgar singers aptly expressed spirit of the season in Willan's "An Apostrophe to the Heavenly Hosts".

Passing Show

WHEN Canada and Newfoundland signed the Confederation Agreement the Senate Chamber, where the ceremony took place, was swarming with camera men. As far as the people trying to see what was going on were concerned, the whole thing was done *in camera*.

•

It had to come sometime and somewhere:—a Vancouver paper has printed a photograph of a girl dressed in a bathing suit decorating a Christmas tree.

•

Didn't Mendelssohn write some Songs Without Words? And couldn't Mr. Robeson learn some of them?

•

Christmas Day—and 364 days before we shall do our next Christmas shopping!

16
17
18
23
24
25
30

•

Department stores report that Canadians did not buy as much this Christmas as they did last. Apparently those people ahead of us were just window-shopping.

•

Mr. Vishinsky says it was the West and not Hitler that started the war. But nobody can deny that Hitler was ready to have it started.

•

In a way it would be nice to have a government at Ottawa that Mr. Duplessis didn't object to.

•

The Civil Service Association of Ottawa is to be congratulated on maintaining its civility. The nearest thing to a departure from it at the annual elections last week seems to have been a remark by the defeated candidate for president to the successful candidate for secretary that "You would be much better off with a good kick in the teeth."

•

Premier Duplessis maintains that Ottawa has no right not to have a right to prohibit oleomargarine when Quebec wants it prohibited.

•

Russia is reported to be building big battleships, which must be very distressing to the peace societies in Russia.

•

Lucy says she wishes her Communist friends would let her know the date of Marx's birthday and then she wouldn't have to give them anything for Christmas.

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The Front Page

(Continued from Page One)

nevertheless we were getting on well enough. The shortage was troublesome but manageable. Hence Mr. Drew never asked for priorities and Mr. Howe never had to refuse them.

Mr. Drew may also be forgiven, surely, for failing to foresee, in 1945, that power demands were going up and not down. After all, experts in Ottawa, as well as in the Ontario Hydro and elsewhere, said that there would be a business recession after the war.

But even if power demand was going to slacken slightly, the Des Joachims plant should have been built just as quickly as possible after the war. The "power reserves" in Southern Ontario—the reserves against a rainy, or rather a rainless, day—were dangerously low. And the record does not prove that work was pushed forward with the utmost speed.

Progress was impeded by the flames of political controversy, flames which Mr. Hepburn had fanned and which Mr. Drew certainly did not try to put out. This means that in 1950 there will still be a shortage, in all probability, because Des Joachims cannot be ready until then. Mr. Drew must bear his share of the blame for the shortage in 1950.

But for the present shortage the blame goes in large measure back to the war, and to the extraordinary increase in power demands since 1945. Mr. Drew may have contributed to this shortage in some measure, because he has for the past two years been urging industrialists in Britain and elsewhere to build new plants in Southern Ontario although he had been warned that the power reserves were precariously low. But the effect of Mr. Drew's personal activities on the total demand for power cannot have been very large.

Most of the trouble this year can be traced to the very low rainfall in the summer and autumn—a drought that came when, as a result of war and postwar developments, the reserves of power would have been dangerously low whoever had been Premier of Ontario since 1943.

The Border Ban

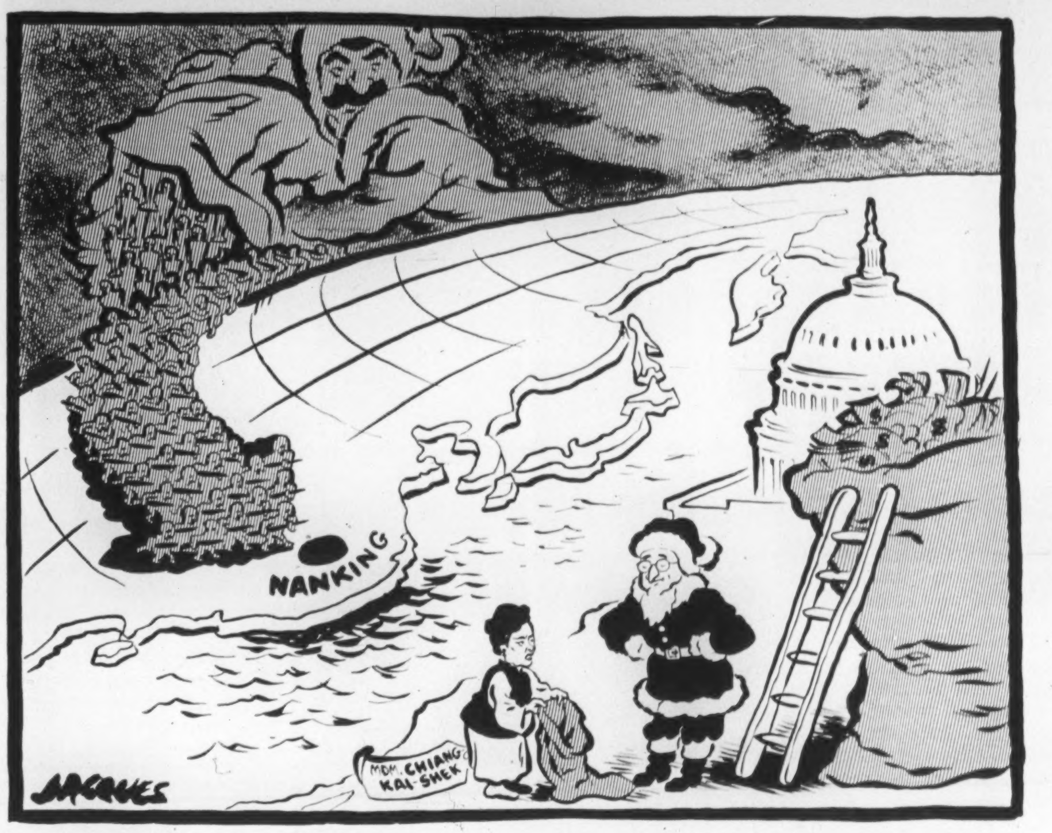
THE Civil Rights Congress of America is a body purporting to be devoted to the admirable purpose of protecting civil rights. Its executive secretary, Mr. William L. Patterson, was refused admission to Canada last week on the ground that he is a member of an organization teaching disbelief in and opposition to organized government and advocating unlawful destruction of property. (This does not necessarily refer to the Congress.) Mr. Patterson says that this charge is ridiculous, and that it has never been proved in a court of law that the Congress is such an organization.

It should, we think, be borne in mind that Mr. Patterson has no absolute right to enter Canada; nobody who is not a Canadian citizen has such a right. So far as we know, nobody claims that there should be such a right; certainly our Communist friends are most vociferous to the effect that no "Fascist beast" should be permitted to enter, and they do not dream of suggesting that Fascist beastliness should be established in some foreign court of law before the gates are barred along the Canadian border.

Mr. Patterson, it is true, was put to some trouble in that he came as far as the border, was held for a time (not uncomfortably) while he was investigated, and was then turned back. But the Canadian authorities had no idea that he was coming until he turned up at the border. He could have inquired before he left his home town whether he would be admitted or not; he did not do so. We do not think Mr. Patterson has a grievance.

The Canadians who invited him to Canada are in the same position. They have no absolute right to his presence at their meeting; and they too could have found out in advance whether he would be admitted or not. They were not debarred from learning what he desired to say to them—which appears to have been strictly lawful; they were merely debarred from hearing it from his own lips, and that was not a deprivation of any absolute right.

Whether the board of three investigators was well advised in barring Mr. Patterson is a question which can be discussed in parliament if anybody wants to bring it up there. The Minister will then be able to defend the action of his subordinates, and if parliament thinks they did wrong it will doubtless censure him and them and Mr. Patterson will then come up and harangue Canadians to his heart's content, and theirs.



Eskimo Madonna

WE hope our readers will get as much pleasure as we have out of the special Christmas photograph on our front page this week. It shows the top half of an exquisite piece of carving by Miss Gloria Jefferies, the youngest member of the Sculptors' Society of Canada. The full figure, about eight inches high, portrays a woman seated, gazing upwards, with her knees drawn up tightly and the grain of the wood flowing downwards with her dress.

Miss Jefferies' studio is tucked away in the basement of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, and there she spends much of her time making copies of the treasures upstairs. In addition to her precise reproductions of some of the Museum's most cherished Chinese pieces, she has done some charming studies of Canadian animals. And, as our own example shows, she can endow a human subject with rare depth and simplicity.

Changing a Constitution

THE Union of South Africa is facing certain problems concerning the amendment of the constitution which can hardly fail to be of interest to Canada, since this country will at some future date be compelled to devise some method by which it can itself amend the Canadian constitution. South Africa had to face the same problem as Canada will have to face in this regard, in that certain elements of the constitution should be capable of being amended without undue delay and with only a majority vote in whatever body is entrusted with the task, whereas other elements need to be much more heavily safeguarded against possible invasion by a temporary majority.

In South Africa this distinction was provided for by the establishment of what are known as the "entrenched clauses". Ordinary clauses can be amended by a simple majority in Parliament; the entrenched clauses can be amended only by a two-thirds majority in a joint session of the two Houses. One of the entrenched clauses is that which provides franchise rights for the non-European population of the Cape, and but for that entrenchment the Cape would not have entered the Union.

Mr. Hofmeyr, who was Deputy Prime Minister under General Smuts and an outstanding figure in South African politics, has written a series of articles in the Johannesburg *Star*, in which he maintains that some of the policies of the Malan Government regarding the non-European franchise involve a violation of the entrenchment clause. Mr. Strydom, one of the more extreme members of Dr. Malan's Government, has proclaimed the view that in spite of the entrenchment clause it would be lawful to make all the proposed changes by a simple parliamentary majority, and he is reported in *Die Transvaler* as having said: "But even if it is not lawful, shall we allow the white race to go under? The continued existence of white South Africa demands it (the abolition of non-European political rights); and therefore we must."

This seems to suggest that under the parliamentary system it may be difficult to enforce the safeguards established for the protection of whatever elements in the constitution it may be desired to "entrench"—elements which in Canada would obviously be related to language and educational rights and to certain provincial powers (about which the South Africans have never been greatly concerned) rather than to racial questions. There is however one more safeguard in the South African constitution, which our French Canadian republicans might observe with profit. The King in his own person, and not through the Governor General, can disallow any measure passed by the South African Parliament. The result of this would of course be nothing more than an immediate dissolution and a general election on the issue raised by the disallowed legislation; but it would give the people an opportunity to pronounce upon the issue after mature consideration.

The facility with which constitutional changes can be made in South Africa will probably be a matter of surprise to most Canadians, but that very facility is, in the words of Mr. Hofmeyr, "a reason for approaching such changes with discretion, certainly for not rushing into important changes on the strength of a small parliamentary majority more or less fortuitously gained".

Christmas Present

THE Christmas tidings that Mr. Abbott brought us a few days ago went almost unnoticed in the general excitement of the festive season. He had two pieces of good news.

First, the figures that he gave out regarding our national reserves of gold and U.S. dollars are very good—far, far better than anyone would have dared to hope a year ago when we seemed to be scraping the bottom of the barrel and were rushing up all sorts of import controls to keep our reserves from disappearing altogether. Second, he says he is going to publish figures about our reserves every three months from now on.

The second point, about publishing the figures, is in some ways more important than the first. SATURDAY NIGHT, probably more than any other paper, has been urging publication and, late though it is, we welcome the government's decision.

Since the war ended there has been no justification for keeping us in the dark regarding our reserves. This is the most important piece of statistical information in the country. Our whole national economic policy hangs on its movements:—what contracts we will make with the British, what import restrictions we will impose, whether we should consider changing the value of the dollar, and so forth. Yet we have not been told what it is, except once a year in the report of the Foreign Exchange Control Board and occasionally at other times when it suited the government to do so. Now, happily, the dark age is over.

The most recent figure given out by Abbott is for the end of September when reserve stood at about $850 millions. This nearly double what it was a year ago—a very satisfactory recovery indeed.

On the other hand it is not much more than half as high as the peak three years ago. This, in itself, would lead to caution in relaxing the import restrictions that have gone along with the recent improvement. But, in addition, we cannot count on getting in 1949 quite as much cash for some exports as we did in 1948. The United States will not go on forever buying Canadian metals for strategic stock-piles; and next year the British will probably get rather more goods from us on credit, and pay less cash, than they did in the past year.

Hence the relaxations that Mr. Abbott announced in our import controls were rather modest. Foods are now going to come in more freely; only fancy or "out-of-season" fruits and vegetables are still completely banned. A number of items that caused a lot of trouble and saved very few dollars are taken off the list. But, most important, we are now letting in a long list of items that we buy both from the United States and also from Britain and elsewhere: furniture, and pots and pans, and wall papers, and zippers, and umbrellas, and dozens of other things. This will help those other countries first to sell more to us and then, as a result of their better supply of our dollars, to buy more from us.

Best of all, perhaps, Mr. Abbott promised that if, as he hoped, our reserves continued to climb there would be more of the same later on. A very nice Christmas present! And we have no doubt that Mr. Abbott—who is not above political considerations—is today reflecting on the fact that it is even more blessed to be able to give such a present than to receive it.

Light in Dark Places

IT IS rapidly becoming much easier for inhabitants of this continent to keep themselves informed about the leading personages of the revolutionary parties and their records. The latest addition to the sources of information is a book entitled "The Whole of Their Lives" by Benjamin Gitlow, formerly a high ranking leader among the American Communists, and the first man to serve a jail sentence in the United States for advocating Communism. He was expelled from the party for defiance of Stalin, and appears to have become convinced of the essential immorality of the Kremlin program in countries outside of Russia. The book is published in Canada by Saunders and Co., ($4.50) and is a most comprehensive account of the people with whom Mr. Gitlow worked and their methods of work.

One of the most interesting chapters deals with the Communist campaign to get effective control of ocean navigation by organizing the seamen and stevedores. Their object of course was to be able to paralyze economic activity by blocking the channels of trade. An encouraging feature of the situation is the spread of disillusionment among the more honest-minded of the adherents of the movement; unfortunately few of the disillusioned have the courage to break their chains.

Synthetic Halo

THE Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner has made headlines in both Canada and Britain by his speech in London. If only dollar-sterling blockages were cleared away, he said, Canada would be able to send more food overseas to feed the "starving millions."

The currency restrictions that Mr. Gardiner complains about did not get there by accident. They were put on by the British. Impoverished by the war, the British cannot afford to take unlimited supplies from us. So they put on controls and buy from us only the things they want most: metals, some lumber, foods with a high nutrition value, and so forth. In other words, the currency restrictions are a symptom, not a cause, of the smallness of British purchases here.

Mr. Gardiner knows this perfectly well. But he rather fancies himself wearing a synthetic halo—grieving over the "hungry millions" and anxious to feed them with Canadian food if only the financial people would let him get on with the job.

Of course, if Mr. Gardiner would like to have Ottawa put up the money—if he would like to raise taxes here, buy food from Canadian farmers, and give it away overseas—he could feed the hungry millions. But taxes are not popular with Canadian voters, and Mr. Gardiner wants a halo, not a martyr's crown.

ted Demand For Cheap Power Causes Shortage In Ontario

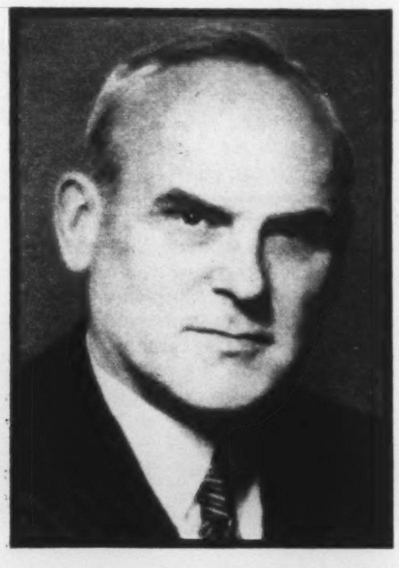
By RODNEY GREY

Southern Ontario for the last two years has suffered a severe shortage of hydro-electric power. The diversified manufacturing centred in that area is being seriously affected by cuts in deliveries; long run defence plans have to be reviewed because of power shortages. How did this shortage of electricity come about?

It is pointed out, in this first of two articles on the Ontario power shortage, that an unprecedented demand for power is a feature of the postwar inflation; that little could have been done during the war to avoid the present difficulty.

THE SHORTAGE of electric power hitting southern Ontario, industrial centre of Canada, is only one of the shortages affecting Canadian industry and Canadian consumers. As our economy reaches new highs of production and income, housing, steel, coal, oil and electricity are all hard to get. The explanation of the power shortage in Ontario can be found in war expansion and postwar inflation. It is perhaps aggravated but not caused by political interference.

In the light of what is now known about the power shortage and the war's demand for goods, it is doubtful if the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission, who control the production and distribution of electric power, could have done much more to prevent the present serious shortage. When electric lights and power driven machinery go off, housewives and factory workers blame provincial politicians, accuse them of playing fast and loose with Hydro. But a study of power needs during the war and materials available to meet those needs, suggest that regardless of who was in power in Ontario and who at Ottawa, a postwar inflation would mean a postwar power shortage.



Mr. Howe says that he undertook to make Des Joachim's priorities available in the critical years 1943-44.

Like Premier Hepburn before him, Ontario's Premier Drew made a political issue out of Hydro's relations with Quebec. He set aside the advice of Hydro experts and opposed "undivided site" development of Ottawa valley power—the last big source of hydro-electric power available to Ontario, with the exception of the St. Lawrence. But looking back over the events in Ontario since 1942, when power development of the Ottawa valley became an issue, it is doubtful if Premier Drew did really add to the shortage, though he assumed there would not be a shortage and based his political plans, both in Ontario and with Quebec, on this assumption.

The main argument now is over the big Des Joachims project on the upper Ottawa. Mr. Drew and his supporters are attempting to prove that the present shortage is due to drought, and that Mr. Drew's action over Des Joachims has nothing to do with it. It is suggested that Mr. Howe, wartime Minister of Munitions and Supply bungled priorities for construction so that Hydro could not build Des Joachims. Those opposing Mr. Drew say he stalled on Des Joachims, played politics with Quebec, and that but for Mr. Drew the shortage would be not nearly so great.

Going behind their accusations, looking at the facts and figures freely available on hydro power in Ontario, you can be sure that from the beginning of World War II expansion of demand for electric power, combined with shortages of materials, has meant and will continue to mean a shortage of electric power.

Increased Demand

After 1939 demand for electricity in southern Ontario rose rapidly; the substantial reserves of the Hydro Commission were soon used. A power controller was appointed in Ottawa and a series of restrictions was introduced in order to make available what power was needed by war industry, heavily concentrated in southern Ontario. All Canada went on daylight-saving time, paper mills (large consumers of power) went on to a system of staggered shutdowns. Till the end of 1941 demand rose rapidly; during 1942 it levelled off, but at the end of 1942 it was still rising. The situation was so serious that two new generating stations had to be built — Barrett Chute and the first unit at DeCew Falls. These were given top priorities and materials rushed through to them. During the same period the great hydro-electric station at Shipshaw in Quebec was built, to provide power for the refining of aluminum. These two Ontario developments and the Shipshaw project were vital to the war effort.

At the end of 1942, demand for power in southern Ontario was running ahead of the yearly estimates and there was no reserve of power. It was then Dr. Thomas Hogg, the head of the Hydro Commission, advised the Ontario government to come to some agreement with the Quebec government over the development of the power resources of the Ottawa valley. The Ottawa River is a provincial boundary — it was suggested by the Quebec government of Liberal Premier Godbout that instead of joint development of power sites, certain sites ought to be developed by one province and the other sites by the other province. Dr. Hogg felt it was vital to go ahead with the biggest power site on the Ottawa—Des Joachims—because if the war went on, it might be otherwise impossible to provide all the electric power war industry needed. In a letter to Premier Conant he advised early development of Des Joachims. Hydro had no reserves; if war went on very long our war production would be threatened. The first stage of development would be the Ontario and Quebec governments arguing about sites and rights. An agreement giving the power rights on the upper Ottawa to Ontario, on the lower Ottawa to Quebec, was signed, ratified by the Ontario Provincial Parliament, and incorporated into a statute. This agreement was opposed in Quebec by Mr. Duplessis, the leader of the Union Nationale, and in Ontario by Mr. Drew, the leader at that time of the provincial Conservative forces. Mr. Drew said that there would soon be a falling off in demand for power because the emphasis in our production would change to shipbuilding, using less power. When he came into power in 1943, Des Joachims was shelved until the end of the war.

Mr. Drew says that drought is the cause and his action over Des Joachims had no relation to shortage.

Des Joachims in 1943

Was Des Joachims necessary in 1943? Could Des Joachims have been built? The fixing of blame on Premier Drew for the present shortage is usually based on a "yes" answer on both those questions.

Dr. Hogg, it may be assumed, wanted the way cleared for the Hydro Commission to go ahead whenever it deemed necessary; he would recommend Des Joachims in the strongest terms. In early 1943 the end of the war looked far away. Who knew how long the war effort would last and what power would be needed? To get the legal problems settled was a logical course; his recommendations to the Ontario government seem designed to do that.

But demand for power — not what was supplied but what would have been taken without cuts—was increasing more slowly in 1942 than previously. Though demand for power did not fall (as Mr. Drew claimed it would) for the rest of the war it continued to rise only slowly. Probably our economy was operating very close to the limits then. With a substantial section of the labor force in uniform, and only a small proportion of our production devoted to building power-consuming capital goods, demand for power was unlikely to increase rapidly. In 1943 the first unit of the DeCew Falls project was brought into service, and during 1944 demand increased only slightly. If the criterion of need for Des Joachims was war need, then hindsight indicates that it was not needed. If the war had gone on longer, demand for power was very unlikely to grow quickly; our industry would not have been expanding, but merely pouring out war

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goods to be consumed. Whether the project was needed after the war was irrelevant in 1943.

Could the vast quantities of material needed for Des Joachims—concrete, cable, generators, lumber—and worst of all, manpower—be obtained in 1943-44? Trying to give an answer to that in 1948 is difficult. Mr. Howe says that he undertook to make priorities available, and other Ottawa sources say that Hydro engineers knew they could get the priorities they needed. Conservatives say Mr. Howe bungled the priorities job.

No Guarantee

Several points should be made clear about wartime priorities. The first and perhaps the most important, is that giving priorities in 1943 was no guarantee that materials and manpower would be available. When Shipshaw was built in record time there were supplies of labor and materials that a high priority brought to the job. By mid-1942 steel was in such short supply that a simple *priority* system became ineffective and *allocation* among high priority customers was resorted to. And in 1943 the system of allocating scarce materials spread. The priority scheme was becoming ineffective because there were no surplus supplies; for some goods there were more priorities than there were supplies. The method of piling priority on top of priority had to be abandoned. In the United States supplies of steel, copper and nickel were allocated, and a high priority came to mean something quite different than it had earlier in the war — it meant only that you stood well in the allocation queue.

Hydro officials now claim that there is no record on their files of requests for priorities for Des Joachims. In Ottawa no evidence has yet been presented to the public that there was even an informal understanding between Dr. Hogg and Mr. Howe that supplies would be available. Certainly if a formal request had been made, the Hydro Commission would have had to present a detailed case showing that Des Joachims was needed for the war effort; not only Canadian authorities but Americans would have had to be convinced. Many of the supplies needed would have to be obtained in the United States. Looking at the record of demand for power during the last part of the war suggests that a convincing case would have been hard to present.

As much as can be found out now about the hydro-electric problem in 1943 shows that Dr. Hogg was worried about long-run power needs, that he wanted the way cleared by agreement with Quebec for the large Des Joachims project, but that as demand levelled off a bit during 1943 the project was shelved. Whether he ever urged priorities for the job, and whether priorities would have produced the men and materials, seems unlikely. The Hydro Commission came through the war with no reserves, but war industry was not hindered by power shortage.

What happened at the end of the war? The Hydro, like practically every other concern, and like the governments at Ottawa, predicted a drop in demands for goods and some reconstruction recession. The yearly estimate of peak demand for Ontario Electric power, made at the end of 1944, when the war's end seemed near, was for a slight fall in the coming twelve months. Instead demand rose sharply when restrictions on power use were removed. The Hydro Commission was wrong in its prediction, but this was an error that many other Canadians made. It was because of the conviction that there would be a recession, based on a great deal of fact-gathering, that the Dominion government took measures to sustain the economy. We know now that inflationary forces were underestimated; but in 1945 many of us, like the Hydro authorities, were convinced that the war's end would bring a temporary slackening.

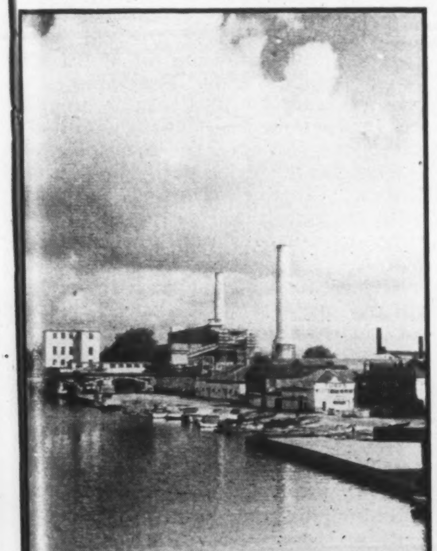
By the Quickest Means

But since reserves were low, the Hydro Commission turned its attention to providing power by the quickest means possible—work was begun on three small projects that would provide power soon. The second unit at DeCew Falls was brought in, the project at Stewartville on the Madawaska was begun and the unit at Augasabon for the northern Ontario system was got under way. Des Joachims, a bigger project than all of these put together, was put aside because it would not produce power soon enough with the same materials applied as at the other three projects. In the meantime, conversations and letters between the Ontario and Quebec governments effected a sort of compromise with Premier Duplessis, for the Hydro Commission and the Ontario government realized that they had no reserves and that demand was rising at a record rate.

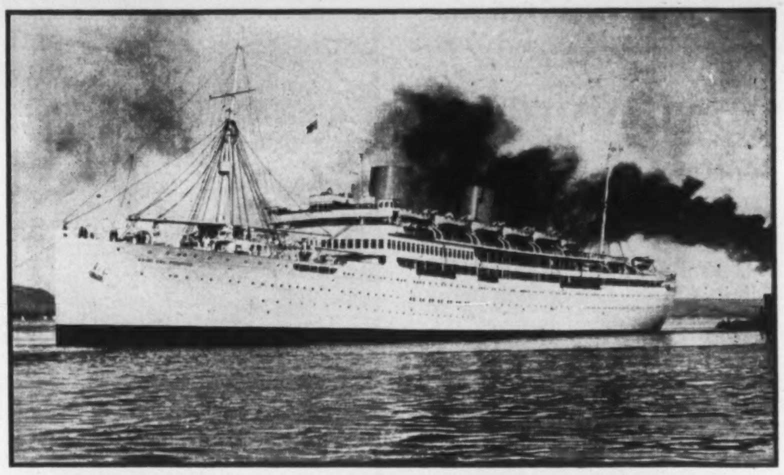
At the time real work was just beginning on Des Joachims, any reduction in rainfall would mean serious cuts. In normal times a substantial reserve of capacity would have alleviated the worst effects of drastic drought, but in the period of postwar inflation the system was of necessity exposed to any reduction in water supply. The bad cuts of November 1948 were the result of unusually low water in the Ottawa valley, which made it impossible for Quebec suppliers to Ontario to meet their contracts. Certainly low water was the immediate cause of much of the November shortage, but the postwar inflation of demand and the difficulty of building productive capacity during the war were the factors that put the system in an exposed position.

Hydro engineers claim the shortage will be worse before it is better. After the Ottawa valley power is developed, the St. Lawrence is the last source of large quantities of cheap hydro-electric power. After that it will be steam and dearer power, unless demand levels off.

In this article it has been suggested that the power shortage in southern Ontario is much like any other present shortage—a combination of curtailment of supply during the war and postwar inflation. It has been argued that Des Joachims should not and could not have been built. In the second article the future of the Ontario system will be outlined; it w be argued that while politics can b kept out of Hydro, the Hydro cannot be kept out of politics.



Lesson for Eastern Canada? Here is a new 120,000 k.w. power station at Kingston-upon-Thames in England, first of a huge chain development.



Remember this one? The 17,000-ton liner *Reina del Pacifico*, now back in civilian life, was one of the troopships which carried the second flight of the First Canadian Division overseas in December, 1939.

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WASHINGTON LETTER

lectoral College Reform, More Pay To Be Debated By New Congress

By JAY MILLER

Washington.

IT MAY be that the people of the United States are going to get some seasonable presents in the form of better government from the 81st Congress. For one thing, there's a strong likelihood that substantial salary raises will be authorized for top administration leaders, including the President, Vice President, his Cabinet officers, and some 218 other top level people.

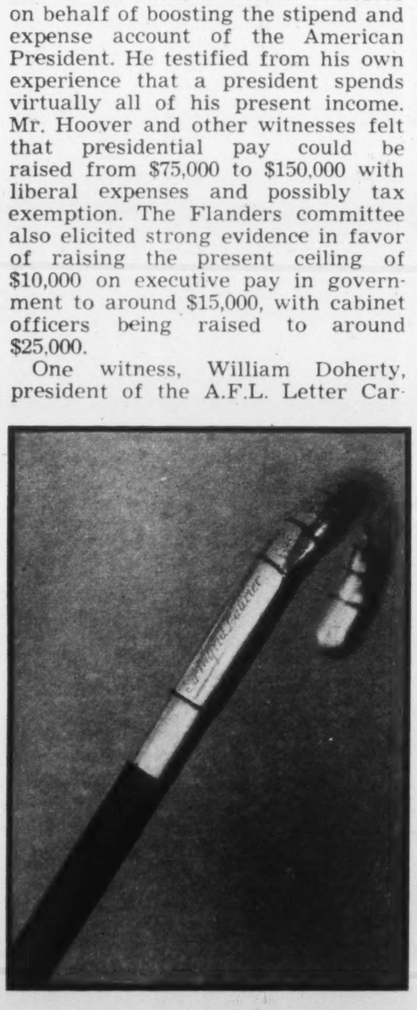
It's a historical fact that government is constantly losing its finest brains to better paying private industry. An $8,000 Bureau of standards scientist quit last week to work for $40,000 for a large corporation.

Then, in addition to whatever Legislative benefits that President Truman and his Democratic Congress hope to win for the people, there appears to be strong sentiment in favor of wiping out two outmoded devices that have long hindered efficient political processes. One of these is the creaky Electoral College system, and the other is the stultifying congressional committee seniority system and the entirely undemocratic and unjudicial committee treatment of witnesses at congressional hearings.

The 80th Congress sings its swan song next December 31, and on January 3 the 81st Congress will open its first session. The President's important Message to Congress, like the Speech from the Throne, will forecast Administration legislative plans early in the New Year. The Democrats will have their big day on January 20 when Truman and Barkley formally take office. Republicans, who must face another four years of the Opposition role that became so familiar during 14 years of Roosevelt, will select their House and Senate leaders after the present session closes on December 31.

That presidential pay raise project will be one of the first items of 81st Congress business. Republican Senator Flanders of Vermont has held hearings on the need of bringing top government salaries more into line with private management top pay. Ex-President Herbert Hoover was one of the most effective witnesses on behalf of boosting the stipend and expense account of the American President. He testified from his own experience that a president spends virtually all of his present income. Mr. Hoover and other witnesses felt that presidential pay could be raised from $75,000 to $150,000 with liberal expenses and possibly tax exemption. The Flanders committee also elicited strong evidence in favor of raising the present ceiling of $10,000 on executive pay in government to around $15,000, with cabinet officers being raised to around $25,000.

One witness, William Doherty, president of the A.F.L. Letter Carriers' Union, pointed out that income of Britain's King George aggregates around $1,300,000, which he pointed out was around the total of pay increases being sought for Administration leaders.



A sceptre passes on. A cane which belonged to Sir Wilfred Laurier was presented to Prime Minister St. Laurent by Postmaster-General Bertrand.

It was also pointed out that Senators and Congressmen are due for a raise, but the solons are notoriously shy about being in the position of seeking more money. They don't like the effect on the voters. But if a pay raise is "forced" upon them, they will not be likely to refuse it.

The Electoral College and Congressional reforms will be a boon to the nation, it is universally agreed. The Electoral College system came so close this year to causing serious trouble that attention of the entire nation has been directed to the need of its removal. A handful of popular votes switched from Truman and Barkley to Dewey and Warren in the three big states could have given the Republicans an electoral majority, although the Democrats still had a popular vote plurality of about 2,100,000 across the nation. A switch in a few votes in two states could have barred an Electoral College majority for any ticket and would have thrown the choice of a President into the House of Representatives. This would have caused weeks of delay, uncertainty and controversy.

The Electoral System set up on the American Constitution is based on each state having two members of the Senate with its membership in the House based on population. Thus, for the election of the President, each state was given an electoral vote equal to its total number of Senators and Representatives. This favors the smaller states. When the Electoral System was adopted, the most populous state, Virginia, had 13 times the inhabitants of the least populous, Delaware. At present, New York has 122 times the population of Nevada. A presidential elector, therefore, represents 37,000 people in Nevada, and 287,000 in New York; 83,000 in Wyoming, 283,000 in Pennsylvania; 80,000 in Delaware, 282,000 in Illinois.

Back in 1944, the 29,623 votes cast for Roosevelt in Nevada counted for more than the 2,897,647 of Dewey's in New York, because Roosevelt carried Nevada while Dewey lost New York. Although there were two occasions since the Civil War that a candidate lost the electoral vote while winning the popular vote—Tilden in 1876 and Cleveland in 1888—it is mathematically possible for a President to get a majority of the electoral vote with only 22 per cent of the popular vote.

Proposals to substitute the truly equitable popular majority for an electoral majority are opposed by the smaller states and the South, where less of the population votes. For example, South Carolina has the same number of electoral votes as the State of Washington, but in 1944 cast only 103,375 votes, as compared with 856,328 in Washington.

The remedy is adoption of the Lodge-Gossett Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This would abolish the Electoral College as a useless and a dangerous Institution. The measure would divide the electoral votes of each state among various candidates in exact ratio to their share of each state's popular vote. This would make elections an accurate reflection of public will. It would also make a plurality of the whole country's electoral vote, instead of the majority as at present—sufficient to elect the President and Vice President. This would end the possibility of having the choice of top leaders thrown into the House.

If a state with 10 electoral votes gave 60,000 votes for Candidate "A", 40,000 for "B", A would get six electoral votes and B would get four.

Congress has shown a distaste for the present power of small groups to swing the total electoral vote in almost evenly divided states. The proposed amendment would end that.

Lt.-Gen. Curtis LeMay, former Commanding General of U.S. Air Forces in Europe and in charge of Berlin Air lift, has been appointed chief of the U.S. Strategic Air Command.

When the 531 men who actually elect the President and Vice President met in the 48 states last December 13, they gave Truman, 303, Dewey, 189, and Thurmond, the Dixiecrat candidate, 39 electoral votes. President Truman was expected to get 304 votes, taking one from the Thurmond total, but a Tennessee elector refused to vote for the President although the President carried the State. Under the proposed new method, he would have been correct in casting the vote for Thurmond, because on the percentage basis, the Southern candidate was entitled to 1.609 of the electoral votes. The State has 12 votes and Mr. Truman was given 11 of them.

One possible hazard of basing the electoral votes in direct proportion to the popular vote is that it would encourage the growth of splinter parties. While Henry A. Wallace got none of the present electoral votes, he would have received 12.590 on a percentage basis, and Socialist Norman Thomas, who did not figure in the final electoral returns this year, would have had 1.513 electoral votes.

Already Governor James E. Folsom of Alabama is on record before the Supreme Court in favor of abolishing the Electoral College. Democratic Chairman, Senator J. Howard McGrath believes that a president should be elected by a straight popular vote instead of by the cumbersome Electoral College system.

And now, as to changes in the makeup and procedures of the congressional committees. Under the traditional seniority system, chairmen were selected entirely on the basis of their length of service and not on their fitness for the job. It is proposed to consider basic aptitude and experience in selecting committee chairman. Also involved is a political factor that can spell success or defeat for the Truman legislative program. A good number of the top committee posts will go automatically to Southern Dixiecrats, who are no friends of the Administration. Democratic strategists may get around this embarrassing impasse by adding to the number of committee members, which would enable the Administration to have clear voting majorities.

LIGHTER SIDE

By Prophet Bard Foretold

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

NOBODY afterwards was able to account completely for the events of that strange Christmas. Some people claimed that the Christmas Spirit which had been hovering desolately over the human race for almost twenty centuries had finally taken matters into its own hands and invaded the hearts of men against their will and judgment. They recalled those half-forgotten days in the First World War when men, acting on an impulse that had nothing to do with superior orders, had climbed out of the trenches and celebrated Christmas Day with their enemies in no man's land. Today, they pointed out, the longing for peace was so profound and universal that men and women all over the world found themselves acting under the same arbitrary impulse.

Some claimed they had heard and even seen the herald angels in the sky, though skeptical groups scoffed at this explanation. People were always ready to be taken in by unaccountable manifestations, they declared, and they usually found what they were looking for. Some saw flying saucers in the sky and some saw herald angels.

The day itself began in the usual way. Lights went on in the houses at five and six in the morning and by seven o'clock most of the sleepy adults had been routed out of bed by excited children. People went to the door to take in the morning paper and hand the usual Christmas gratuity to the news-carrier. (It was only later that they realized they had given a dollar and sometimes two instead of the customary fifty cents.) They glanced at the headlines which contained the familiar news of Communist-inspired strikes, cost of living surveys and fighting in China; and they turned back with relief to the momentary bright illusion of Christmas in their own lives.

At ten that morning a startling news announcement came over the radio. The matter of Berlin currency had finally been settled, the announcer said, Moscow had declared that it was withdrawing its blockade, and in fifteen minutes Miss Dorothy Thompson would be on the air to give a commentary on this extraordinary shift in world affairs.

Soviet detractors immediately began to speculate about what the Kremlin was up to now, while Soviet admirers pointed out that the new move was entirely in line with the Kremlin's well-known peace-loving aims, when a new announcement came over the air. The argument however had lost its heat. People everywhere were so overjoyed at having the crisis over that they had lost interest in quarrelling about how it had begun.

AS IT turned out, however, Miss Thompson's commentary had to be postponed. A newscaster came on the air about ten minutes later with a report from Palestine. Dr. Chaim Weizman, he said, had just announced that as a concession to the Arabs and to avoid further bloodshed the State of Israel was prepared to place the government of Jerusalem City under international control. The news announcer added that there was a rumor of cessation of hostilities in China and that Miss Thompson would not be available for some time as she was engaged at the moment in dictating to three secretaries at once.

By this time people everywhere had turned aside from their private Christmas celebrations to listen to the voice on the air. Meanwhile reporters and typesetters voluntarily surrendering their Christmas holidays had hurried back to their papers to report the news. Special editions were coming out and loudspeakers were beginning to move through the streets. It was rumored that the *Daily Worker* had forwarded an apology to Buckingham Palace, regretting that through editorial oversight there had been some slighting of the news of the birth of the British heir, Charles Philip Arthur George. "Here's wishing Young Chuck a long life and prosperous reign," the message was reported to have ended genially. This sensation was quickly followed by a Christmas message to the world from Miss Ana Pauker of Rumania. The message couldn't have been more conciliatory. "As it happens I am a Communist," Miss Pauker stated, "but I dare say there is a great deal of good to be said for both sides."

ALL over the world famous enmities were breaking down. Tito of Jugoslavia announced that everything had been fixed up between himself and the Cominform and added in a generous burst of candor, that actually there had never been anything in the story anyway. A reconciliation had been brought about between Whittaker Chambers and Alger Hiss. Gov. and Mrs. Strom Thurmond had flown up to take dinner at the White House. Tenants and landlords everywhere joined hands, with promises of immediate removal on the one hand, and indefinite extension of leases on the other. It was reported that General de Gaulle and Maurice Thorez had been seen drinking together amicably in a Paris bistro, a rumor that was distorted locally to represent Mr. George Drew and Mr. William Temple as meeting in a cocktail bar. Although this was denied, a report that Dr. Brock Chisholm had been seen giving twenty-five cents to a street-corner Santa Claus was later authenticated. Then at noon Canadian Finance Minister Douglas Abbott came on the air and reported that while he had planned to announce a substantial decrease in income tax with the next budget, he saw no reason, in view of both the season and the national surplus, why the change shouldn't take effect immediately, as a Christmas offering from the government to every taxpayer in the Dominion.

And so it went on, all day long. Late in the afternoon, the United Nations met in extraordinary session about a vast Christmas Tree. Each nation in turn voluntarily surrendered national sovereignty as a free gift to a unified and peaceful world, even Mr. Vishinsky failing to hang up a veto. It was agreed that Mr. Shostakovitch should be commissioned at once to compose a symphony to world peace, using any musical ideology that happened to suit him. Everywhere the old war fronts and even some of the new peace fronts were beginning to crumble, like ice in a winter break-up. By evening the Soviet Union had agreed to accept the principle of international inspection, and the United States government had announced that it was prepared to destroy its entire stockpile of atomic bombs.

The great day came to a triumphant conclusion when Dorothy Thompson came on the air at ten o'clock to announce in twenty-seven languages with simultaneous translations that after scanning every part of the world horizon she was unable to detect a single omen of disaster. After that the people went to bed with all the bells of the world—the bells of India and Burma, the golden bells of Moscow, the church-bells of England—ringing out a great harmonious chorus to peace on earth and goodwill towards men.

The bells woke up Mr. George Bernard Shaw who went at once to the telephone which happened to be ringing at the same time. It was a reporter from a London paper, wanting to know what Mr. Shaw thought of the extraordinary change that had come over the human race.

"I see no reason for changing my lifelong conviction that the human race has an infinite capacity for fooling itself," Mr. Shaw snapped and went back to bed.

As it turned out of course, Mr. Shaw was right.

By next morning the Christmas Spirit had faded as unaccountably as it had arisen, and all the wire and cables of the world were hot with retractions, denials and allegations of false and misleading Soviet (or Western capitalist) propaganda and impersonation. The people of the world got up and went about their work, only a little sadder than they might have been if the extraordinary experience hadn't occurred at all. They were accustomed both to illusion and to disillusion, and they felt themselves fortunate to have caught even transitorily some remote radiance from the prophet bard's age of gold.

LONDON LETTER

Though State "Pubs" Successful Liquor Trade Remains Free

By P.O'D.

DURING the 1914-18 war "pubs" at Carlisle in Northern England and in the Gretna and Cromarty districts of Scotland were taken over by the state under the Defence Regulations. The arrangement worked so well that the Licensing Act of 1921 made it permanent. Though the number of "pubs" has been steadily reduced in these areas—at Carlisle, for instance, from 321 to 178—the management has been able to show a handsome profit of about $800,000 a year. What is even more important, the public has been satisfied with the service it has been getting.

Now it is proposed to extend the system to the new satellite towns which are being built around London, and a Bill to that effect has been introduced in the House of Commons. There may be some opposition—after all, very considerable interests are affected—but the success of the "Carlisle experiment", as it is called, will do a good deal to take the sting out of the attack. Nor is the public likely to be hostile.

People in this country may be fond of beer, but they are not especially fond of the brewing interests which make and supply it, and which control most of the "pubs"—very often with scant regard to public comfort and convenience. There is no suggestion of a plan to nationalize the liquor trade. Too many hornets in that nest.

Two Hangings

Recently two murderers were hanged in this country, the first since the controversy over the Criminal Justice Act last winter and the strong effort in Parliament to have the death penalty abolished. While the debate was on, several murders were reprieved by the Home Secretary—some of them in spite of very brutal crimes. But when the Bill was finally passed, the "no hanging" clause was omitted, chiefly owing to the determined opposition in the House of Lords.

These two hangings have come as something of a shock to a good many people, who were under the impression that death sentences were now automatically commuted to life imprisonment.

Their mistake is natural enough, in view of the confusing amount of debate and manoeuvring between the two Houses that went on over the Bill, the Commons being in favor of abolition and the Lords against. It was also quite obvious that the leaders of the government were averse to the abolition just now, though they left it to a free vote.

Public opinion still seems to be strongly in favor of abolition. In deference to it and also to the views of the majority of its own followers in the House, the government is now appointing a Royal Commission to go into the whole question of the abolition or at least limitation of the death penalty. In the meantime, gentlemen with the idea of going in for murder had better think twice. They have just had a grim warning—two, in fact.

Medical Freedom

Doctors are still dissatisfied with the operation of the National Health Service—so dissatisfied that a considerable number, under the leadership of Lord Horder, have formed a new organization to protect their interests. They insist that this "Fellowship for Freedom in Medicine", as they call it, is not a breakaway from the British Medical Association. But the organizers make clear their opposition to the B.M.A.'s attitude to the National Health Service, and the way in which it allowed itself "to be a party in the mad precipitancy of the government."

"Medicine today," said Lord Horder, "has become what we pledged ourselves it never should become, a branch of the Civil Service. In the economic field, some doctors are faced with serious financial insecurity; others are making bigger incomes than they formerly did, but are doing less doctoring in return."

The difficulty seems to be that, in order to make a reasonable income, a doctor has to take so many patients on his panel that he cannot look after them as he should. Besides, there are a certain number of patients everywhere who, now that they don't have to pay their doctor, make all sorts of frivolous demands on his time and attention, thus reducing his ability to take proper care of the patients who really do need him.

Many of these personal difficulties will, no doubt, gradually get smoothed out. The troublesome patient will find doctors unwilling to accept him—or more usually her. The less conscientious doctor, who railroads patients through his surgery, will find his registered list growing smaller. But there are certain reforms which could be made now. One is an increase in the "capitation fee," as it is called; and the other is a decrease in the number of patients a doctor is allowed to have on his register.

These are reforms which doctors generally are demanding. But they will cost more money, and the Ministry of Health and the Treasury are likely to be extremely unsympathetic. The National Health Service is already costing a lot more than was originally estimated. These great and beneficent ideals are apt to be expensive, and even our Socialist rulers, who have taken as their motto, "Utopia in our time, O Lord", are worried as to where all the money is to come from. There are no rich left to soak.

RADIO

Broadcasting Plan In South Africa

By JOHN L. WATSON

IT APPEARS that Canada is not the only dominion to be plagued with fundamental and far-reaching problems regarding the control of commercial broadcasting. The South African Broadcasting Corporation, which has operated for a dozen years without the doubtful blessing of commercial sponsorship, has reached the tragic but inescapable conclusion that it can no longer function, in any sort of progressive way, solely on the revenues obtained from receiving licences.

The S.A.B.C. is required by the terms of its charter to devote itself to the representation of both English and Afrikaans culture in equal measure, which, in a country where the two cultures are not, as in Canada, conveniently isolated but thoroughly intermixed, means a complete duplication of the entire transmitting system. Geographical disparities add to the confusion, necessitating the full-time operation of six different networks. On the other hand, income from licence fees (average: 28s. 6d.) has very nearly reached the saturation point—485,000 radio homes out of a possible half million. The Corporation, faced with constantly rising costs and fixed revenues, has decided to adopt a system of commercial broadcasting and has sent its young and energetic Director-General, Mr. Gideon Roos, to this continent to study our ways and learn from our bitter experience.

I got the impression from talking to Mr. Roos that he must have been rather shaken by what he found although his native politeness prevented him from saying anything of the kind. The impact of our high-powered commercial radio, with its jingles and its soap operas, must be pretty shattering on one who has grown up in happy ignorance of such horrors and the responsibility of introducing it, or anything like it, into his own innocent country, must weigh rather heavily on Mr. Roos's conscience.

The South African system will differ from ours in certain fundamental principles. Three new networks will be created to broadcast commercial programs only, in English or Afrikaans as each sponsor prefers; the present networks will continue to relay sustaining programs only. All commercial broadcasting will be handled by the Corporation and no private stations or networks will be authorized. Finally, there has been no suggestion that the collection of licence fees will be discontinued, a fact which may interest the political magicians in this country who plan, by heaven knows what formula, to finance the C.B.C. without cost to the public.

•

There is a very definite parallel between the Book of Job and the career of Frank Merriwell. Both these fictional heroes suffered manifold tribulations, both stuck doggedly to their beliefs (the justice of God, the American Way of Life) and both, in the end, were handsomely rewarded—a condition essential, in these days, to the practice of virtue. To be sure, it is not recorded that Merriwell ever admitted his shortcomings, as Job was finally persuaded to do, but then he was an American, while the older man was some sort of foreigner. Certainly Job, to an even greater extent than his spiritual descendant, was the product of a sterner and more virile age, an age when the reading public was prepared to accept, without question, any amount of human sacrifice as merely incidental to the working-out of a theological inquiry.

The whole problem was very forcefully presented to the radio audience in the broadcast version of "The Book of Job", prepared by Earle Grey and broadcast on C.B.C. "Wednesday Night". It was a remarkable program in many ways though a decidedly slow one and the content was a great deal more impressive than the presentation. Most of the performers were extraordinarily good and the incidental music was appropriately sombre and awesome but somehow the pace was a little too funereal and the whole atmosphere a little too solemn for good radio drama. Perhaps "The Book of Job" ought to have been done on a Sunday and frankly billed as a "religious broadcast" rather than a radio play.

I suppose everyone is entitled to his own conception of The Almighty and that no two directors would agree on the best one, but it seemed to me that Bruce Webb's interpretation of Jehovah was far too redolent of "The Green Pastures" to be appropriate to what was, after all, a very serious production.

•

This is the time of year when radio producers look to Charles Dickens to help them do the next-to-impossible job of re-creating in a hard-boiled, commercial world the old-fashioned spirit of Christmas. This year the C.B.C. chose "The Cricket on the Hearth" for its pre-holiday presenta-

(Continued on Page 11)

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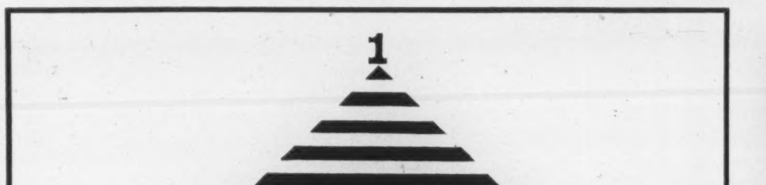

Here's a simple test for *your* eyes. Hold this page at arm's length and look at the chart with one eye at a time. If with either eye, the lines in any of the squares appear heavier or blacker—you may have a very common vision weakness—astigmatism. It might be wise to have *your* eyes tested, particularly if you drive a car!

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nsolence Of Material Success" What It's Doing To Modern Man

By WILLSON WOODSIDE

NOW comes the difficult season for writing. Crisis and conflict which have become, unhappily, the stock-in-trade of journalism today, are out of place. Something different and better is called for, in spite of the fact that few will probably read it.

I believe that these demands are met by an unusual and powerful book, "Ideas Have Consequences" (by Richard Weaver, Gage, $3.00), which I have delayed reviewing for some time, but which certainly has lost none of its importance or timeliness on that account. Weaver's study of what is happening to the moral and spiritual values of Western civilization takes its place alongside Aldous Huxley's "Science, Liberty and Peace" and Huizinga's "In the Shadow of Tomorrow."

The anarchy of modern society, Mr. Weaver believes, stems from an "evil decision" made by Western man in the late fourteenth century. It was at this time that he began to abandon belief in a source of truth higher than, and independent of, man, and to affirm that what the senses feel and not what the intellect perceives, is real.

"In a Deep and Dark Abyss"

This denial of everything transcending experience means inevitably the denial of truth. Nature comes to be looked upon as a self-operating mechanism, and man as a rational animal. The question of what the world was made for becomes meaningless. All that the new man wants to know is how it works.

From rationalism the course followed naturally through materialism and biological necessity ("the survival of the fittest"), to psychological behaviourism. All this has left man in a deep and dark abysm, with nothing with which to raise himself. "He has found less and less ground for authority at the same time he thought he was setting himself up as the centre of authority in the universe."

This process gained momentum from two developments of overwhelming influence in the nineteenth century. "The first was a patent increase in man's dominion over nature which dazzled all but the most thoughtful; and the second was the growing mandate for popular education. The latter might have proved a good in itself, but it was wrecked on equalitarian democracy's unsolvable problem of authority; none was in a position to say what the hungering multitudes were to be fed."

In an abdication of the authority of knowledge they were allowed to pick for themselves, resulting in "a carnival of specialism, professionalism and vocationalism."

Political development reflected this change. From the aristocratic intellectuals of the type of John Milton and the Puritan theocrats who settled New England, or the royalist and learned defenders of the faith in Europe, leadership passed to the Whigs in England, and to the encyclopaedists on the continent, with their doctrine that man is by nature good.

The next stage produced the popular leader and demagogue, broadening the franchise in Britain, wrecking revolution in Europe and building the urban political machines in the United States. Finally the twentieth century brought the leaders of the masses, though these divided sharply into sentimental humanitarians and an elite group of remorseless theorists who pride themselves on their freedom from sentimentality.

The basic advantage of the latter, the modern Communists, is that they lead a movement of intellectual rigor—the first in centuries—facing all problems with logical clarity while Western man flounders about, having thrown aside discipline and authority in the development sketched above.

This development has customarily been presented to Western man as "progress", and the author admits the extreme difficulty in getting people to see it as the contrary. Nevertheless he proceeds to demonstrate that it has been one of cultural decline, even decadence. The difficulty in arousing people to concern over this is that "their insensitivity increases with their degradation." Apathy mounts as the moral crisis deepens. "We approach a condition where we shall be amoral without the capacity to perceive it."

Triviality and Travesty

In the face of the awful judgments pronounced against men and nations in recent decades, he finds notes of triviality and travesty. What the world needs is to admit the existence of tragedy, and it cannot admit this until it again distinguishes between good and evil. But "the egotism of modern man, fed by many springs, will scarcely permit the humility needed for self-criticism."

Launching into his task, the author asks whether modern man, for all his vaunted achievements and his industrious chase after multitudinous "facts", which fill thicker and thicker encyclopaedia, is on the whole any wiser than his predecessors? He finds that the world of "modern" knowledge is like the universe of Eddington "expanding by diffusion until it approaches the point of nullity."

Weaver questions whether there has ever been a more deceptive panacea than mass literacy. "It is not what people can read; it is what they do read, and what they can be made, by any imaginable means, to learn from what they read, that determine the issue of this noble experiment." Little comfort can be taken, he thinks, from the way in which people employ this technique of acquisition, reading so much that debauches, and coming under the manipulation of the controllers of the printing machine. One has only to look at the tragedy of modern Germany, "the one totally literate nation."

Next he takes up the claim for modern civilization that it has provided so much better for man's material welfare. Here he finds a striking disparity between the sense of abundance of older, simpler societies and the sense of scarcity felt by the ostensibly richer societies of today—the sense of never having enough to meet the requirements which a pattern of life imposes on one. "Abundance for simple living is replaced by scarcity for complex living." It has yet to be proved that the substitution of an ascending spiral of desires for a stable requirement of necessities leads to a happier condition.

If we ignore this feeling of frustrated covetousness and merely accept the fact that, by comparison, modern man has more, the author points out that this very circumstance sets up a conflict, "for it is a constant law of human nature that the more a man has to indulge in the less disposed he is to endure the discipline of toil." Labor becomes something which is grudgingly traded for that which everyone has a "right" to.

Is Modern Man Happier?

Taking up another point, he asks whether modern man feels happier? The typical modern, he finds, has the look of the hunted and is unable to order his life. He is afraid of war which would wipe out his children's inheritance, and of his own technological monster which can destroy the pattern of life he has built up.

Constantly assured that he has more power than ever before in history, his daily experience is one of powerlessness, "cribbed, cabined and confined in countless ways," and frustrated in the end.

These are Weaver's answers to the eulogists of constant progress. It is his claim that "civilization is an intermittent phenomenon; to this truth we have allowed ourselves to be blinded by the insolence of material success."

That is only his introduction. I have given it at some length to induce thoughtful people, who have been pondering on where the sensational press, the debased movies, the flood of crime fiction and "comics", the abandonment of the classical studies for more "useful" ones, mass living in the cities, the decline in religious belief, the loss of pride of work or craftsmanship, and other modern trends are carrying us, to get and read this book.

It is symptomatic of the very condition which the writer analyzes that one can scarcely suggest that people discuss this subject of what is happening to our civilization. The cataclysm of Hiroshima, it is true, did provoke such discussion for awhile. But that is three years past. Now, when we gather together for an evening, how often do we get beyond what this newspaper said about a certain politician, and what another newspaper replied, or the latest movie, or the cracks of the Sunday night radio comedians—among the hardest-working, and I sometimes suspect the most melancholic, men of our time?

One of Weaver's most trenchant chapters deals with these mass dissemination media, which he calls The Great Stereopticon. No one can understand the influence of journalism on the public mind, he claims, without appreciating that it is "a spawn of the machine, closely linked with the kind of exploitation, financial and political, which accompanies industrialism."

Role of the Press

The intention of the rulers of the press, he believes—making a sweeping generalization—despite artful pretences to the contrary, is to minimize discussion. The press encourages men to read in the hope that they will absorb. It does much of people's thinking for them, by the values which it places on events through small or splash display. It seeks to evoke stock responses, through stereotyped phrases. It distorts, to hold attention. It thrives on friction and conflict, conflict being the essence of drama. "By the attention it gives their misdeeds it makes criminals heroic and politicians larger than life."

Then he utters what he recognizes will be taken for blasphemy, by asking, "how, in the light of these facts, can one hesitate to conclude that we would live in greater peace and enjoy sounder moral health if the institution of the newspaper were abolished entirely?"

As to the movies, he finds that "the beliefs which underlie virtually every movie story are precisely the ones which are hurrying us on to perdition. The entire globe is becoming imbued with the notion that there is something normative about the insane sort of life lived in New York and Hollywood—even after that life has been exaggerated to suit the morbid appetite of the thrill-seekers."

One may stay away from the movies, as he says. The newspapers one skims through, practising a certain art of rejection. "But the radio is insistently present." (Has he heard that it has been proposed for Toronto street-cars?) It has almost no sense of values: "the serious and the trivial, the comic and the tragic, follow one another in mechanical sequence," as advertisements for laxatives followed the news of the destruction of famous cities during the war.

"Here, it would seem, is the apotheosis; here is the final collapsing of values, a fantasia of effects suggesting in its wild disorder the débris left by a storm. Here is the daily mechanical wrecking of hierarchy. . . . The broadcast of chaos comes in a curious monotone. This is the voice of the Hollow Men, who can see the toppling walls of Jerusalem, Athens and Rome without enough soul to sense tragedy. . . . Thus the closer man stands to ruin, the duller grows his realization. . . ."

Spoiled-Child Psychology

"What person taking the affirmative view of life can deny that the world served up daily by press, movie and radio is a world of evil and negation?" Yet he does note certain hopeful signs of restiveness: a deep suspicion of propaganda, the election of some politicians in the face of almost unanimous press opposition (!), the cagey dismissal of obvious falsification in advertising, and some reaction against printing items of a private and distressing nature in the press.

Concluding his study of disintegration with a powerful chapter on "The Spoiled-Child Psychology," Weaver devotes the remainder of his book to possible means of healing our civilization. If these means appear quite incapable of checking and reversing this process of deterioration in the couple of decades of borrowed time which the ticking of the atom bomb—that greatest proof of man's dominion over nature—may allow us, they still merit careful consideration. It would do the author an injustice to try to indicate them in a few sentences.

• •

"HAST THOU NOT HEARD?"

THE spirit of martyrdom is outmoded.
It is not commendable, now,
To welcome pain with the zeal of St. Francis;
Nor is tribulation
Accepted as a challenge to faith.
(What good, we ask, did suffering ever do?)
There is a palliative, even a cure,
For everything except stupidity
And only the stubborn will endure discomfort.
(Make your need known, it is said,
And if God seems to have overlooked your case
Science will take care of it.)
Here and there are a few men
Who had not heard the new gospel;
Quietly and with old-fashioned grace
They accept the scourge of winter
As a preparation for spring.

VERNA LOVEDAY HARDEN

• •

BEFORE THE WORLD WAS

WHERE was this rose before the world was made?
And when the bases of the hills were laid
In molten magma, with convulsions vast,
Where in that fiery and chaotic past
Were these cool, graceful trees,
The singing birds,
The murmuring bees,
And yonder herds
Of cattle grazing in the sun and shade?
And where were you and I,
Who in this garden, 'neath a summer sky,
Squander in peace these golden-minted hours?
Where was this rose and all these faerie flowers,—
Where were we all before the world was made?
How came we here?
Who cast the primal seed
From out the void beyond the stratosphere?
Who measured and decreed
The distance of our planet from the sun,
And the ellipse by which the ordered seasons run?

HILDA FRIEDMAN

• •

REQUIEM FOR WHOM?

I WALKED with Heraclitus in his ruined city,
And muttered softly, "foolish men",
He answered, "they have had no time for knowledge".
The world was younger then.

We saw the moonlight like a white reflection,
And broken letters on the littered stone—
"They fade as knowledge fades"—
"My friend remember
That knowledge yet unknown".

The wave departed and the land was altered,
The seas are conquered and the statues break;
What dream is this that calls across my slumber,
That follows when I wake?

You died before your friend, my Heraclitus,
And Athens died, New York and Rome:
I said, "The sun is strange and pale this morning".
He answered, "You are home".

ALFRED W. PURDY

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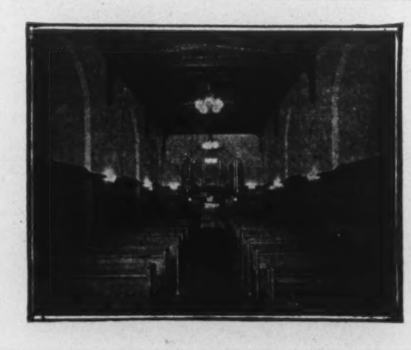

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SPORTING LIFE

The Enchanted Stick

By KIMBALL McILROY

I WAS only a kid when old Pete McKeown died from an infected skate-cut or something, but I remember all about it—the write-ups in the papers and a minute's silence before the Saturday night game at the Gardens and his number, it was 17, being stored away by the Eagles' management who said nobody else would ever wear it again because Pete McKeown had been Mr. Hockey to everybody and it wouldn't seem right.

Then I had other things to think about, like catching on with a good junior club and signing with the Eagles after we won the Memorial Cup and playing a couple of years in minors before they brought me up.

But I'd read about how Pete McKeown had had a kid named Ted who was only a baby when the old man died and everybody said, sort of sentimental the way people figure they ought to say these things, that maybe he'd grow up to be a great hockey player like his Dad. They don't, usually.

Only Ted McKeown did. He was the exception. He was a couple of years younger than me and so he was always a couple of years behind me coming up, but this spring he finally made the Eagles. Naturally they gave him sweater number 17.

I met him one afternoon when we were practising. I was sitting on the boards, letting a little of the sweat roll off me, when Jerry Murphy, the old guy who makes a living sharpening our skates, came along with him.

"Joe," he said, "I'd like you to know Ted McKeown. You probably heard of his father."

"I sure have," I said, to be polite. "He was one great hockey player." And we shook hands.

The kid was just like anybody else as far as I could see—young, with a nice smile, and nervous at being up in the big time.

He was good, though. You could tell that before he'd been on the ice two minutes. Not much of a skater, and maybe a little slow, but as neat a stick-handler as I ever saw. It was like magic the way he'd handle that puck with his stick. The puck seemed to cling like glue.

He made the second line right off, and he scored a goal the first game.

It's funny what happens to a kid who makes good right from the start. You can see the change coming. I was rooming with him and for the first few weeks he was always asking me things, little tricks of the trade, why I'd done this in a game and why I hadn't done that. And he'd listen respectfully and thank me and the next time on the ice I'd see him trying them out for himself.

Personally, too, he was quiet and shy. At first. He didn't step out nights, and when kids flocked around asking for autographs he'd turn red and look uncomfortable while he signed his name.

But he was scoring goals for the Eagles. He moved up to the first line. Then the papers began saying first that he sure took after his old man and then that he was almost as good as his old man had ever been and then some of them even wondered if he wasn't better than his dad.

HE STOPPED asking me for advice. Instead sometimes he'd try to tell *me* things. Giving autographs started to be a nuisance and he'd brush the kids off. He began going out on parties, with the fast, rich crowd that likes to be seen with well-known hockey stars. He began mentioning big shots, casual like, when he talked, to show that he knew them.

The real tip-off to me came one day during afternoon practice. We were sitting on the bench.

"Ted," I said, not thinking much about it, "I never saw a guy could stick-handle any better than you do. Maybe it's the kind of stick you use. Maybe it's lighter than most, or heavier, or shaped different, or something. Let me try yours a couple of minutes." And I reached for it.

You'd have thought I asked him for his right arm. He practically jerked it away from me.

"You mind your own damn business," he snarled, and he sounded hot. "If you can't stick-handle, then don't try to blame it on the stick. Some guys'll try anything for an excuse." And he jumped up and went out on the ice.

I shrugged my shoulders. He'd certainly changed. Jerry Murphy came up and asked me what had happened. I told him.

"Don't be too hard on the kid, Joe," Jerry said. "I guess you don't know it, but his old man left him that stick. Old Pete was using it the night he got the cut he died from. It was about all he *did* leave the kid."

That explained a little, but not much. "He doesn't have to get so huffy about it," I said. Then a thought struck me. "You mean he's played with that one stick all season and it hasn't got broken?" I asked.

Jerry nodded. "That's right. He's been lucky."

Lucky! It was right then that I began to notice something. It was the way the kid looked after that stick. He never let it out of his sight, even took it back to the hotel with him nights. And I began to watch him out on the ice—slow and sort of clumsy, but stick-handling like nobody I ever saw before. It was as if the stick was doing the hockey playing, and he was just holding it. It sounds silly, but it's what I mean.

I said to him in the room that night, "Gosh, Ted, you'd almost think it was that stick that was playing on the first line, instead of you." I wanted to see what he'd say.

I got a little more than I'd expected. He got red and then he got white. He looked frightened, really frightened, for a minute. Then he got mad. He grabbed his suitcase and the stick and stalked out of the room, and a little while after the coach came up to say there'd been a change in the rooming arrangements.

So it was just like I'd figured. I'm not a superstitious guy, but there was no getting away from it. It gave me a queer feeling just to think about it.

I couldn't help telling the rest of the boys, and we began watching, and the closer we watched the surer we got. It all fitted.

The boys began making Ted offers, offering him plenty just to borrow the stick for a few minutes for some game. And always Ted got mad, sometimes so mad he was ready to fight about it.

He was leading the league in scoring now, and the big shots were falling all over themselves to make a fuss over him. Society people and debutantes would be waiting for him outside the dressing room after games, and he was always in trouble for the hours he kept.

It costs a lot of money to move in those circles, more money than Ted had, but I didn't know how bad things were getting with him until one day he came around and asked me for a loan. He said he hated to look like a piker in front of his friends.

Two nights later he hurt his ankle in the first period of a game, not badly but enough to bench him for the night. It had been his own fault. He'd acted sort of absent-minded and let himself be boarded. I guess he was worrying about things.

As he was sitting on the bench, rubbing his ankle, Frank Revere turned to him and said, almost as if it was a gag, "I'll give you a hundred bucks if you'll let me use that stick, Ted."

The kid made sort of a grab for the stick, which was on the bench beside him, and then he looked at Frank, and finally he nodded. I almost dropped.

Frank took the stick with him the first time he went out on the ice. The kid watched. It didn't seem to make any difference in the way Frank played, as far as I could see, and before long he cross-checked someone and broke the stick in half.

I HOPE I never see anybody's face again the way that kid's was when he saw what happened. It was as if someone had pulled his backbone out and let the rest of him slump down like a sack of potatoes. He didn't say anything. Pretty soon he began to shake and after a while he went down to the dressing room.

He didn't score a goal in the next game, nor the one after that. He kept trying different sticks from the club supply. It didn't help. One guy passed him in the scoring race, then two, and then three.

What happened proves everything I've said, doesn't it? He still looked slow and clumsy, but now he wasn't scoring goals. Not without that stick. His stick-handling had fallen apart. So was the kid.

His big-shot friends weren't coming around any more. I don't think that was what was worrying him, though, he'd taken to going up to his room right after dinner and just staying there. It was more what was happening to his hockey.

The club was getting ready to release him. No matter how hard he tried, or what kind of a stick he used, he just couldn't pull himself together. And you know why.

Well, the night before he was due to go down to the minors, right after the game had started, Jerry Murphy came up from the skate-sharpening room for a breath of air.

"Look what I got here, Ted," he said. "Maybe it won't hold up, but I done my best. I got the pieces after Frank bust it." And he handed Ted his old stick.

You wouldn't believe it. Two minutes after he was on the ice Ted scored a goal. A minute later another one. He was stickhandling better than ever, maybe on account of those early nights.

Pretty soon he began moving right back up again in the scoring. The big shots were back, but he didn't pay any attention any more. He told me one night he had all he could handle just playing hockey.

"You sure worked a miracle," I told Jerry the next time I saw him. "Fixing that magic stick was not only a brain wave on your part but a neat bit of wood-working as well."

"It isn't the same stick, Joe," Jerry said. "It's just an ordinary stick I fixed up to look like it. I'm glad the old one got bust." He looked out on the ice at Ted McKeown. "The kid'll be all right now, I think," he said. "I'm aiming to tell him the truth after he's played a couple more games."

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RADIO

(Continued from Page 9)

tion, presumably because they shrank from the idea of perpetrating still another radio version of "A Christmas Carol", which is so cruelly manhandled at this season of the year. "The Cricket", unfortunately, is mediocre Dickens; it is almost entirely devoid of fun, and this defect was magnified in the radio production, which was competent enough but certainly not exceptional. I thought the men in the cast were convincing — especially Mr. Eric Christmas, who made old skinflint Tackleton a real flesh-and-blood character—but the women, with one exception, all sounded like refugees from a young ladies' finishing school. It seems a pity that so many of our distinguished radio actresses cannot, or will not, abandon their carefully acquired gentility, even when the characters they are attempting to portray are quite obviously lower middle class.

On Christmas Day

People who have nothing better to do on Christmas Day may listen to the following programs which, among others, will be broadcast over national networks:

9:00 a.m.—"Empire Broadc messages exchanged throughout Empire (or Commonwealth, or wh have you?); Robert Donat, maste of ceremonies.

10:00 a.m. — Christmas Message from His Majesty the King (rebroadcast 6:00 p.m.)

11:00 a.m.—Christmas Day service from chapel of H.M.C.S. *Magnificent.*

12:30 p.m.—"The Hunting of the Snark": a reading of the famous Lewis Carroll poem in dramatized form.

2:00 p.m. — Metropolitan Opera broadcast of "La Bohème" from New York.

5:30 p.m. — Arcangelo Corelli's "Christmas Concerto" played by a string orchestra.

7:30 p.m. — "Christmas Miscellany": featuring Neil Chotem, Ruth Hamilton and Ken McAdam in a program of Christmas music.

8:00 p.m. — "C.B.C. Christmas Party"—a musical and dramatic Christmas pudding concocted by a distinguished group of C.B.C. culinary artists.

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Douglas Abandons Old Simplicity For Some Form of Modernese

By J. E. PARSONS

THE BIG FISHERMAN—by Lloyd C. Douglas—*Allen*—*$3.75.*

AWAY back in the year 1926 Sinclair Lewis politely declined the Pulitzer Prize for his novel "Arrowsmith," on the ground that no prize is worth an author's subservience to the authority of modern judges of literary excellence. (It might be added, parenthetically, that four years later he accepted the Nobel Prize for Literature!) Today we have our own Lloyd C. Douglas, who flatly refuses to have his products hawked by Book-Clubs. His products will sell, says the good doctor, on their own merits —or not at all.

And it is common knowledge that his books have not only sold, but sold astonishingly well, ever since he first handled the universal values in "Magnificent Obsession," some nineteen years ago. Following this success, Dr. Douglas turned out nine more homespun homilies in the form of novels, the best of which (from a purely materialistic point of view) seems to have been "The Robe," of which more than two million copies have been sold. Now, six years later, we have his eleventh, the story of the Apostle Peter, "The Big Fisherman," which we are willing to wager will find its way all wrapped up nice and pretty under some thousands of gaily decorated Christmas trees.

Black and White

The big question mark is, what makes Dr. Douglas probably the most popular of living novelists? This is a very difficult question, and all we can do is hint at a few possible answers. (After all, if we knew exactly how he does it, would we be writing reviews?) Perhaps his *wholesomeness* has something to do with his success. By wholesomeness we mean, not only the complete absence of sex in his stories, but their high moral quality, their gentle didacticism. Another characteristic of his books is that you don't have to be frightfully alert to get everything out of them that you possibly can. Everything's right there for you in black and white. Nothing is implied. You don't need to do any independent thinking at all. Lloyd does it for you. If you ever pause in the middle of a Douglas story and say to yourself, "Now what does he mean by that?" well—you had better face it—you're a moron. Perhaps the best selling-quality of his stories is that they deal with plain, ordinary people in a plain, ordinary way, using a plain, ordinary style. Finally, his plots *are* interesting.

But the plain, ordinary style seems to have slipped a little in "The Big Fisherman". We begin to wonder if Dr. Douglas' inordinate success has perhaps led him into an infelicitous modernese, or an unhealthy skepticism here and there. A house in the Holy Land has a "patio"; that august Jewish body, the Sanhedrin, is said to be "in the driver's seat"; worst of all, Christ is denied one of his most striking miracles. He breaks up the five loaves and two fish into small bits, and tells His companions to distribute the food to the multitude. So far, well and good. But "With sheepish grins, the men and women who had provided for themselves tugged their parcels out of their pockets and passed them down the row."

King Herod, believing that a gesture of amity between the Arabs and Jews would present a picture of military solidarity that might dissuade the Romans from attacking his kingdom, marries his son Antipas to an Arabian princess. The union is not a happy one, though their daughter Fara is very beautiful and beloved by both the Arabs and the Jews. Having fallen in love with Herodias, Antipas divorces his wife and sends her and their child home to Arabia. Bent on avenging this insult, a party of Arabs and their king ride to Jerusalem in order to murder Herod, the instigator of the marriage. But Herod has just died. (The facts: Herod died 4 B.C.; Antipas got his divorce in A.D. 26.)

Fara grows up. At the age of sixteen she sets out from Arabia with the idea of slipping a dagger into her father's heart. But she meets the Carpenter of Nazareth, sees His miracles, and is turned from her vow of vengeance. Her sweetheart, Voldi, later King of Arabia, plunges the dagger into its destination. (The facts: Antipas was not assassinated. He was banished to Lugdunum in Gaul, where he died.)

Woven into this *leit-motif* of revenge is the story of Simon called Peter, the irreverent fisherman who became the staunch disciple. The later life of Jesus is also drawn, with a reverence that is not flamboyant. But we feel that Douglas' years-old insistence on writing of ordinary men in an ordinary way has betrayed him into treating extraordinary characters somewhat flatly and unconvincingly.

The Sunset Age

By JOHN YOCOM

LAUGHTER IN THE NEXT ROOM—by Sir Osbert Sitwell—*Macmillan*—*$4.25.*

IN HIS fourth book of reminiscences, the memories of novelist-poet-essayist-satirist Sir Osbert Sitwell continue to rise out of the mist and solidify into constructive ideas. They become vivid, witty, and sometimes, when changed into prophecies of the atomic age, gloomy. But memories or prophecies, they are laden with sensitivity and fine indignations. There is no weepy nostalgia but a dignified, colorful report of the period — from World War I to the end of II. (Books to come, he advises, will not be so much about himself as about his friends.)

What is Sir Osbert's secret? First, he has a sizzling enthusiasm for life and art. And since the extraction of beauty where dull vision would see only ugliness is the essence of the artist's power, Sir Osbert in painting a difficult period is again a prose artist. He includes a certain amount of the delightful jest in history and a splash of the incongruous here and there about his eccentric father, Sir George. As children Edith, Osbert and Sacheverell Sitwell were a closed corporation against the dominating parent; in the 20's the three founded a new group of writers whose vigorous tactics dismayed and shocked critics. But solid literary worth raised all three above the squabbles.

SIR OSBERT SITWELL

Sir Osbert's prose, with a luminous English discipline, is still charmingly intimate. If at times he rambles, a mixture of detachment and close association only adds to the intimacy. Quotable passages abound. He has the knack of writing warmly, then elegantly, then romantically, but his prose is always controlled.

Historically Sir Osbert misses some of the high tension that the rest of us felt during the 30's (he passes over the depression and Hitler's chronic scare antics), and there are gaps in the literary history too. But he catches some of the search for values after the First World War and recounts excellent sidelights about his part in the 1926 General Strike.

The *Lacrimae Rerum*—"the tears of things" (Virgil's phrase)—are first touched gently as a puzzle in his war experiences, as he sees his friends killed; then they become a main theme. "But what the price may be for that devil's picnic in the flower-sprinkled isles (Hiroshima), we can still as yet only comprehend in the dumb and sable corners of consciousness, where a knowledge of the future and a terrible awareness of justice abide."

The atomic age catches him out on a limb; he feels pretty hopeless: "I, a Citizen of the Sunset Age, an Englishman, who saw the world's great darkness gathering, salute you, Stranger, across the Chasm. . . I have endeavored to make you feel what it was like to be alive before the world fell into the pit. . . Above all, my message is that the world could only have been saved—perhaps still can be—through the spirit of man, especially through art, its noblest and most important manifestation."

Earlier he had said that so long as art continues to live, the thugs who make war cannot get humanity down; therefore the thugs hate it, for it speaks to them of other ideas. So Osbert Sitwell presents successive portraits of artists and intellectuals and delightful anecdotes about them and their ideas, to show that there may be something in this theory. To him Virginia Woolf was "notably beautiful with a beauty of bone and form and line that belonged to the stars rather than the sun." When Osbert had flu in the winter of 1918-19, Aldous Huxley and Lytton Strachey visited him in a London military hospital, "drooping round the end of my bed like allegorical statues of Melancholy and satyrlike Father Time."

Osbert has been a friend of composers. He first met William Walton as a shy, 16-year-old prodigy at Oxford. He promoted the première of Walton and Edith's "Façade" — but not its flop (Noel Coward walked out; critics panned it). George Gershwin, "the Jazz Phoenix," usually came to luncheon with the Sitwells when he was in London.

The anecdotes that touch on family trivia (*e.g.*, his father's idiosyncracies) are boring in spots, with the exception of the superb chapter when his 80-year-old father, in Italy at the time of Mussolini's entry into the war, looks back on his life while gazing at the lovely Italian countryside.

Sitwell's urbane and informal bits of intelligence about his family and friends and the period's rhythm, tones and colors, which might be missed by duller ears and eyes, make first rate reading.

The Founders

OUR PARTNERSHIP—by Beatrice Webb, edited by Barbara Drake and Margaret I. Cole—*Longmans, Green*—*$6.00.*

THIS book covers the years 1892-1911 and, like its predecessor "My Apprenticeship" gives a narrative of events enlivened by copious extracts from contemporary diaries. Other volumes were supposed to follow, but were interrupted by Mrs. Webb's death just as this one was about complete. It brings to light many interesting details about the lives and thoughts of the couple who, above all others perhaps, were responsible for the rise of moderate socialism, as opposed to extreme communism, in England.

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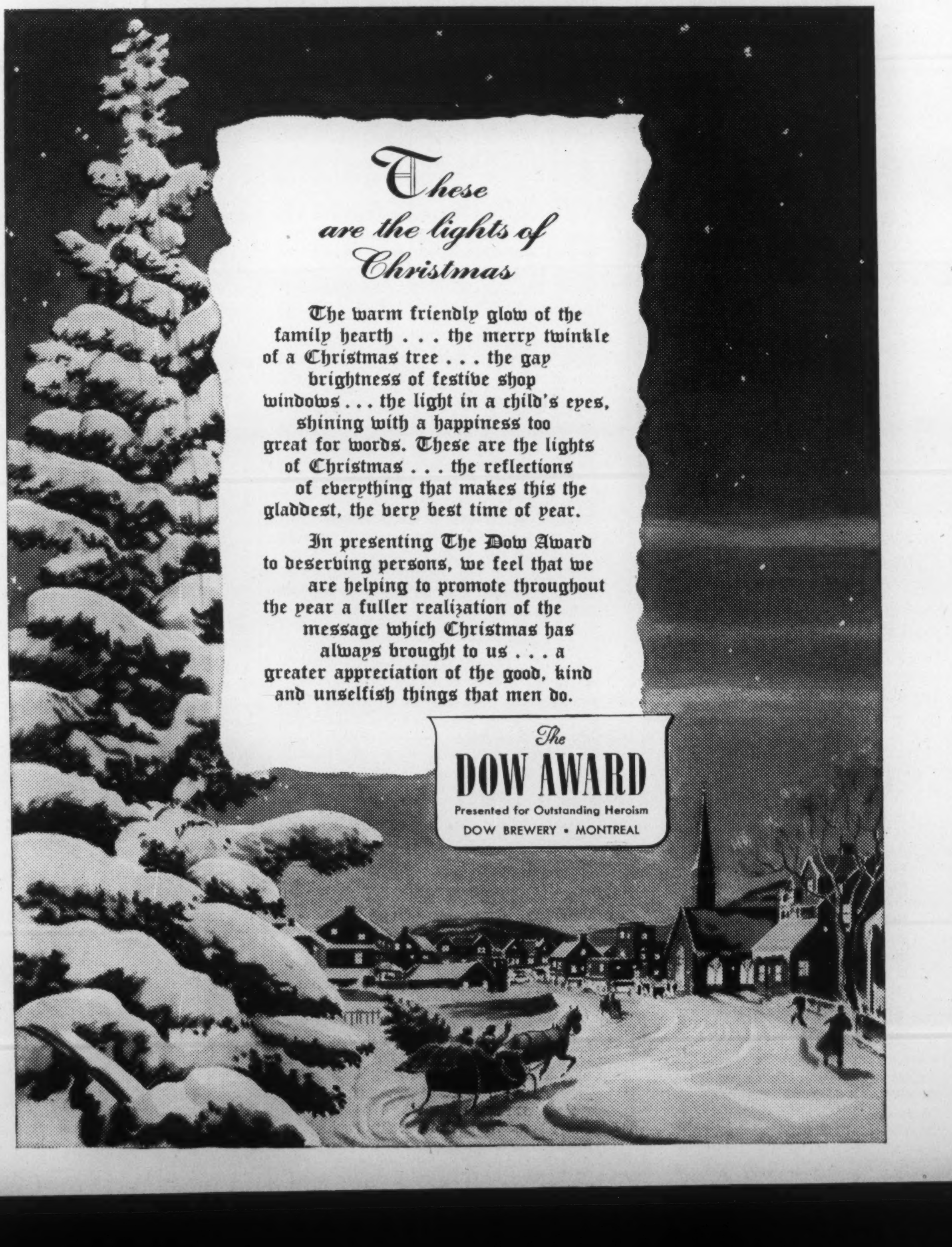

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FILM PARADE

Movies During The Xmas Season Are The Tired Shoppers' Haven

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

MOVIE theatres don't go in for Christmas display to any extent, since it is obviously poor business to present extravagant productions to patrons who have merely dropped in between bouts of shopping to take a weight off their feet. "Sleeping Car to Trieste", a violent melodrama, and "Unfaithfully Yours", an even more violent comedy, are quite good enough for their seasonal purposes. "Johnny Belinda" however has moments when it deserves a better rating, thanks to imaginative direction and a touching performance by Jane Wyman.

"Sleeping Car to Trieste" is a familiar English studio blend of passenger service and international crime. (See: "Night Train to Munich", "The Lady Vanishes" and "Rome Express".) The trick is to combine the rush of movement with the rush of action and make plot and train pull in at the station at the same moment and exactly on time. In the present production plot, subplot and supplementary comedy are worked out with such mechanical care that the production hardly needs a director. A dispatcher would have done just as well.

Among the standard main characters are the slick international crook, his beautiful lady accomplice, their gentlemanly victim and a handsome member of the Security Police. The novelties include a travelling British author and his cowed secretary, a London broker on the loose with a pretty weekend companion, a gum-chewing wise-cracking amorous American soldier, etc. etc. (The American soldier who chews gum, cracks wise and is hungrily on the prowl for female society is a standard travel gadget on these excursions.)

The point of controversy here is an international diary stolen from a Paris embassy. Its import is never particularly clear, either to the audience or, apparently, to the person who wrote the script, but it serves to touch off the inevitable murder, scurry and eventual roundup. The murderer is trapped on schedule, though why anyone so fabulously cool and ready should have made the mistake of jumping off a moving train backwards is a point overlooked in the rush. The cast includes Jean Kent, Paul Dupuis and Albert Lieven. Their performances are all up to the demands of the script, which in this case aren't very heavy.

Reason for Being Mad

Rex Harrison has had some very rude things to say about Hollywood recently and though he didn't mention "Unfaithfully Yours" in his indignant summing-up it struck me as being as good a reason as any if he wanted to be mad at the film capital.

"Unfaithfully Yours" presents the English star as a middle-aging and wildly emotional orchestra leader, distracted by love for his pretty young wife (Linda Darnell). When he suspects her of impropriety with his secretary, he takes to brooding and winds up by combining orchestra leading with daytime fantasy. Thus while conducting his orchestra through Wagner, Rossini and Tschaikowsky he imagines himself solving his domestic problem by (a) killing his wife, (b) forgiving her, (c) killing himself. This mightn't be everybody's idea of comedy but it happens to be Director Preston Sturgess's and he is the one in charge.

What is needed in practically all Preston Sturgess comedies is someone in charge of Preston Sturgess—someone capable of saying loudly enough to be heard above the racket, "Listen, this row has been going on long enough!" Apparently things can never go on long enough for Director Sturgess. If it seems funny to have Rex Harrison step through a cane-bottomed chair, he honestly believes that it can be twice as funny to have him step through a second cane-bottomed chair. (A large part of the comedy in "Unfaithfully Yours" is built about breakaway furniture, with some assistance from tearaway clothes.)

Even the genuinely funny moments in "Unfaithfully Yours" go on too long. Rex Harrison himself goes on too long, in speeches of the most inordinate gabbiness. Rudy Vallee as a stuffy but fortunately reticent millionaire is a great help.

•

"Johnny Belinda" is Way Down East melodrama and the Way Down East locale is our Nova Scotia. In spite of its melodramatic material the picture is presented with a shrewd perceptive eye for the way human beings behave under the double pressure of isolation and impoverishment. If a picture can be good simply by virtue of the dexterity with which it avoids being bad, then "Johnny Belinda" is a good picture. On these somewhat qualified grounds it is recommended, though not, possibly to Maritimers.

The unfortunate heroine of "Johnny Belinda" (Jane Wyman) is a deaf-mute farm drudge, who is partially restored to the land of living people through the efforts of a kindly doctor (Lew Ayres) who teaches her the sign language. A more violent form of education is a brutal assault by a local lout (Stephen McNally). Nearly all these early scenes are directed, photographed and acted with sensitiveness and imagination, and even the hack-work plotting that emerges in the later sequences is redeemed by Jane Wyman's pliant and touching performance and by a directional sense that never quite loses touch with the lives of simple and not always admirable people.

Blind Canadian Pianist Mary Munn attends a celebration at Brighton for the Moon Press for the blind.

SWIFT REVIEW

HAMLET. Lawrence Olivier's superb film version of the Shakespearean classic.

KISS THE BLOOD OFF MY HANDS. A melodrama which though less sensational than its title isn't much prettier. With Joan Fontaine, Burt Lancaster.

MISS TATLOCK'S MILLIONS. Complicated comedy involving impersonation, lunacy and a touch of incest. The material is handled with immoderate high spirits but only moderate success. With John Lund, Wanda Hendrix.

RED RIVER. A virile Western in which Director Howard Hawks displays his masterly handling of men, cattle, action and landscape. With John Wayne, Montgomery Clift.

• •

COMMUNITY COUP

At its concert this month the Forest Hill Community Centre offered a variety of entertainment: two Stars of Tomorrow from the Village, the Bell Singers and the presentation of a specially commissioned choral work. Young soprano Patrica Snell, who has made notable contributions to the Canada Packers Operatic Society's and the Opera School's productions, sang a varied group with a sweetly lyrical voice. Her phrasing was good but tone control a trifle uneven at times, and better enunciation, especially in the French songs, would have added to an otherwise satisfactory presentation. Incidentally, the characteristic *tempo rubato*, as much a trade mark of Vienna as the Danube, was missed in the Stra "Tales from Vienna Woods". Piani Millicent McRae, another Village School graduate and a pupil of internationally famous Lubka Kolessa, played Johann Kuhnau's programmatic sonata "David and Goliath" and Liszt's "Ballade No. 1." She demonstrated an impressive instrumental tone, crisp and ringing chords, and a fleet keyboard handling that had few technical slips. Her performance was free and vigorous and gave promise of a fine musical future.

The Bell Singers in a diversified program of religious songs, folk songs, etc., sang with the clean-cut execution, transparent blending and dramatic arrangements which have made them the best choir of this type of the North American continent. Howard Cable's choral work, set to Campbell's "How One Winter Came in the Lake Region", was forthrightly impressionistic with a piano accompaniment full of bold dissonances and startling progressions but a unison vocal line that was almost stark by contrast. It was an interesting work but contained few expressive subtleties, for which Campbell had given all kinds of leads, in the thematic sequences. However, the expressiveness of the choir made up for what was lacking in the score.—J.Y.

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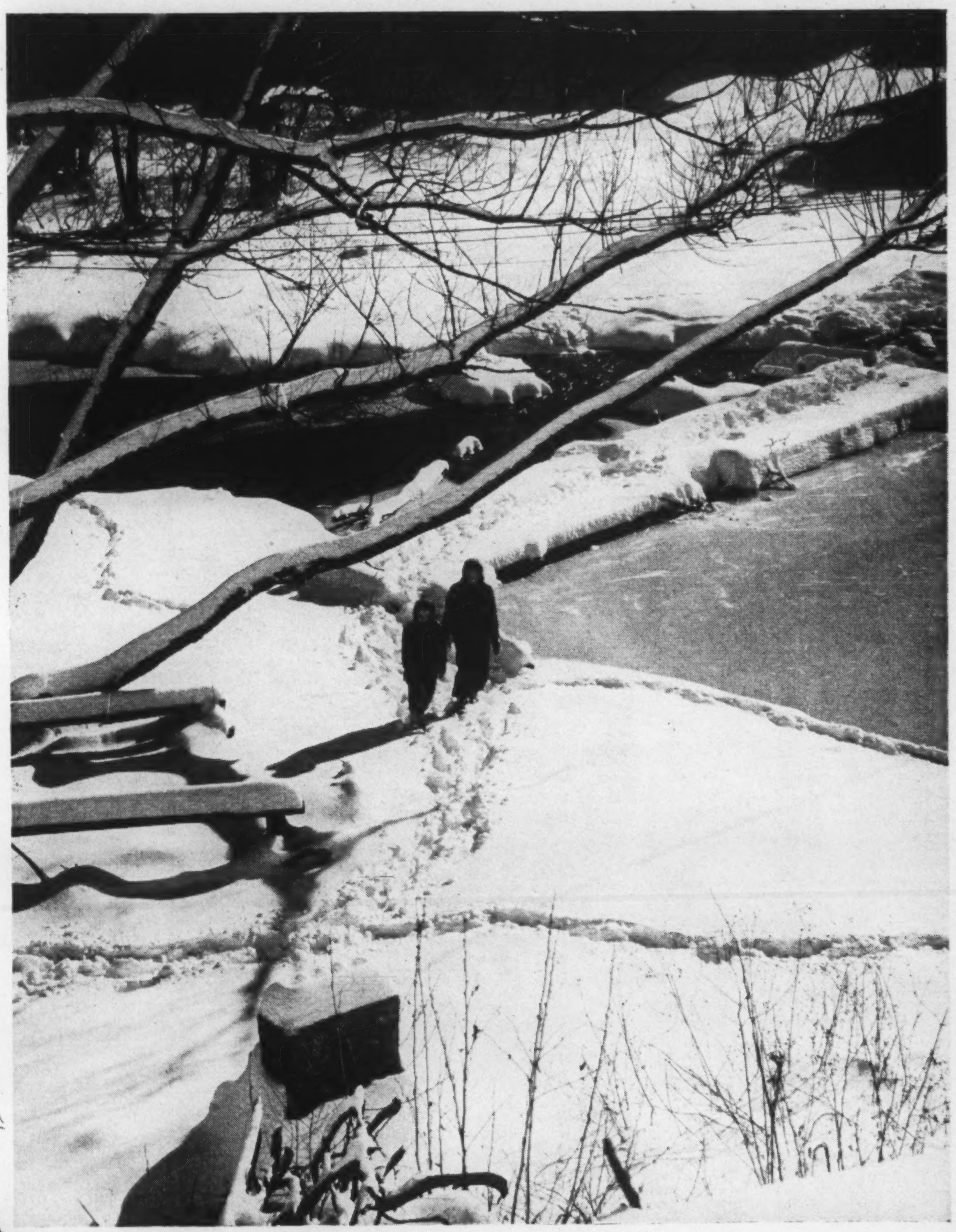

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By J. E. PARSONS

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The Sunset Age

By JOHN YOCOM

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The *Lacrimae Rerum*—"the tears of things" (Virgil's phrase)—are first touched gently as a puzzle in his war experiences, as he sees his friends killed; then they become a main theme. "But what the price may be for that devil's picnic in the flower-sprinkled isles (Hiroshima), we can still as yet only comprehend in the dumb and sable corners of consciousness, where a knowledge of the future and a terrible awareness of justice abide."

The atomic age catches him out on a limb; he feels pretty hopeless: "I, a Citizen of the Sunset Age, an Englishman, who saw the world's great darkness gathering, salute you, Stranger, across the Chasm. . . I have endeavored to make you feel what it was like to be alive before the world fell into the pit. . . Above all, my message is that the world could only have been saved—perhaps still can be—through the spirit of man, especially through art, its noblest and most important manifestation."

Earlier he had said that so long as art continues to live, the thugs who make war cannot get humanity down; therefore the thugs hate it, for it speaks to them of other ideas. So Osbert Sitwell presents successive portraits of artists and intellectuals and delightful anecdotes about them and their ideas, to show that there may be something in this theory. To him Virginia Woolf was "notably beautiful with a beauty of bone and form and line that belonged to the stars rather than the sun." When Osbert had flu in the winter of 1918-19. Aldous Huxley and Lytton Strachev visited him in a London military hospital, "drooping round the end of mv bed like allegorical statues of Melancholy and satyrlike Father Time."

Osbert has been a friend of composers. He first met William Walton as a shy, 16-year-old prodigy at Oxford. He promoted the première of Walton and Edith's "Façade" — but not its flop (Noel Coward walked out; critics panned it). George Gershwin, "the Jazz Phoenix," usually came to luncheon with the Sitwells when he was in London.

The anecdotes that touch on family trivia (*e.g.*, his father's idiosyncracies) are boring in spots, with the exception of the superb chapter when his 80-year-old father, in Italy at the time of Mussolini's entry into the war, looks back on his life while gazing at the lovely Italian countryside.

Sitwell's urbane and informal bits of intelligence about his family and friends and the period's rhythm, tones and colors, which might be missed by duller ears and eyes, make first rate reading.

The Founders

OUR PARTNERSHIP—by Beatrice Webb, edited by Barbara Drake and Margaret I. Cole—*Longmans, Green*—*$6.00*.

THIS book covers the years 1892-1911 and, like its predecessor "My Apprenticeship" gives a narrative of events enlivened by copious extracts from contemporary diaries. Other volumes were supposed to follow, but were interrupted by Mrs. Webb's death just as this one was about complete. It brings to light many interesting details about the lives and thoughts of the couple who, above all others perhaps, were responsible for the rise of moderate socialism, as opposed to extreme communism, in England.

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FILM PARADE

Movies During The Xmas Season Are The Tired Shoppers' Haven

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

MOVIE theatres don't go in for Christmas display to any extent, since it is obviously poor business to present extravagant productions to patrons who have merely dropped in between bouts of shopping to take a weight off their feet. "Sleeping Car to Trieste", a violent melodrama, and "Unfaithfully Yours", an even more violent comedy, are quite good enough for their seasonal purposes. "Johnny Belinda" however has moments when it deserves a better rating, thanks to imaginative direction and a touching performance by Jane Wyman.

"Sleeping Car to Trieste" is a familiar English studio blend of passenger service and international crime. (See: "Night Train to Munich", "The Lady Vanishes" and "Rome Express".) The trick is to combine the rush of movement with the rush of action and make plot and train pull in at the station at the same moment and exactly on time. In the present production plot, subplot and supplementary comedy are worked out with such mechanical care that the production hardly needs a director. A dispatcher would have done just as well.

Among the standard main characters are the slick international crook, his beautiful lady accomplice, their gentlemanly victim and a handsome member of the Security Police. The novelties include a travelling British author and his cowed secretary, a London broker on the loose with a pretty weekend companion, a gum-chewing wise-cracking amorous American soldier, etc. etc. (The American soldier who chews gum, cracks wise and is hungrily on the prowl for female society is a standard travel gadget on these excursions.)

The point of controversy here is an international diary stolen from a Paris embassy. Its import is never particularly clear, either to the audience or, apparently, to the person who wrote the script, but it serves to touch off the inevitable murder, scurry and eventual roundup. The murderer is trapped on schedule, though why anyone so fabulously cool and ready should have made the mistake of jumping off a moving train backwards is a point overlooked in the rush. The cast includes Jean Kent, Paul Dupuis and Albert Lieven. Their performances are all up to the demands of the script, which in this case aren't very heavy.

Reason for Being Mad

Rex Harrison has had some very rude things to say about Hollywood recently and though he didn't mention "Unfaithfully Yours" in his indignant summing-up it struck me as being as good a reason as any if he wanted to be mad at the film capital.

"Unfaithfully Yours" presents the English star as a middle-aging and wildly emotional orchestra leader, distracted by love for his pretty young wife (Linda Darnell). When he suspects her of impropriety with his secretary, he takes to brooding and winds up by combining orchestra leading with daytime fantasy. Thus while conducting his orchestra through Wagner, Rossini and Tschaikowsky he imagines himself solving his domestic problem by (a) killing his wife, (b) forgiving her, (c) killing himself. This mightn't be everybody's idea of comedy but it happens to be Director Preston Sturgess's and he is the one in charge.

What is needed in practically all Preston Sturgess comedies is someone in charge of Preston Sturgess—someone capable of saying loudly enough to be heard above the racket, "Listen, this row has been going on long enough!" Apparently things can never go on long enough for Director Sturgess. If it seems funny to have Rex Harrison step through a cane-bottomed chair, he honestly believes that it can be twice as funny to have him step through a second cane-bottomed chair. (A large part of the comedy in "Unfaithfully Yours" is built about breakaway furniture, with some assistance from tearaway clothes.)

Even the genuinely funny moments in "Unfaithfully Yours" go on too long. Rex Harrison himself goes on too long, in speeches of the most inordinate gabbiness. Rudy Vallee as a stuffy but fortunately reticent millionaire is a great help.

•

"Johnny Belinda" is Way Down East melodrama and the Way Down East locale is our Nova Scotia. In spite of its melodramatic material the picture is presented with a shrewd perceptive eye for the way human beings behave under the double pressure of isolation and impoverishment. If a picture can be good simply by virtue of the dexterity with which it avoids being bad, then "Johnny Belinda" is a good picture. On these somewhat qualified grounds it is recommended, though not, possibly to Maritimers.

The unfortunate heroine of "Johnny Belinda" (Jane Wyman) is a deaf-mute farm drudge, who is partially restored to the land of living people through the efforts of a kindly doctor (Lew Ayres) who teaches her the sign language. A more violent form of education is a brutal assault by a local lout (Stephen McNally). Nearly all these early scenes are directed, photographed and acted with sensitiveness and imagination, and even the hack-work plotting that emerges in the later sequences is redeemed by Jane Wyman's pliant and touching performance and by a directional sense that never quite loses touch with the lives of simple and not always admirable people.

Blind Canadian Pianist Mary Munn attends a celebration at Brighton for the Moon Press for the blind.

SWIFT REVIEW

HAMLET. Lawrence Olivier's superb film version of the Shakespearean classic.

KISS THE BLOOD OFF MY HANDS. A melodrama which though less sensational than its title isn't much prettier. With Joan Fontaine, Burt Lancaster.

MISS TATLOCK'S MILLIONS. Complicated comedy involving impersonation, lunacy and a touch of incest. The material is handled with immoderate high spirits but only moderate success. With John Lund, Wanda Hendrix.

RED RIVER. A virile Western in which Director Howard Hawks displays his masterly handling of men, cattle, action and landscape. With John Wayne, Montgomery Clift.

• •

COMMUNITY COUP

At its concert this month the Forest Hill Community Centre offered a variety of entertainment: two Stars of Tomorrow from the Village, the Bell Singers and the presentation of a specially commissioned choral work. Young soprano Patrica Snell, who has made notable contributions to the Canada Packers Operatic Society's and the Opera School's productions, sang a varied group with a sweetly lyrical voice. Her phrasing was good but tone control a trifle uneven at times, and better enunciation, especially in the French songs, would have added to an otherwise satisfactory presentation. Incidentally, the characteristic *tempo rubato*, as much a trade mark of Vienna as the grey Danube, was missed in the Strauss "Tales from Vienna Woods". Pianist Millicent McRae, another Village School graduate and a pupil of internationally famous Lubka Kolessa, played Johann Kuhnau's programmatic sonata "David and Goliath" and Liszt's "Ballade No. 1." She demonstrated an impressive instrumental tone, crisp and ringing chords, and a fleet keyboard handling that had few technical slips. Her performance was free and vigorous and gave promise of a fine musical future.

The Bell Singers in a diversified program of religious songs, folk songs, etc., sang with the clean-cut execution, transparent blending and dramatic arrangements which have made them the best choir of this type of the North American continent. Howard Cable's choral work, set to Campbell's "How One Winter Came in the Lake Region", was forthrightly impressionistic with a piano accompaniment full of bold dissonances and startling progressions but a unison vocal line that was almost stark by contrast. It was an interesting work but contained few expressive subtleties, for which Campbell had given all kinds of leads, in the thematic sequences. However, the expressiveness of the choir made up for what was lacking in the score.—J.Y.

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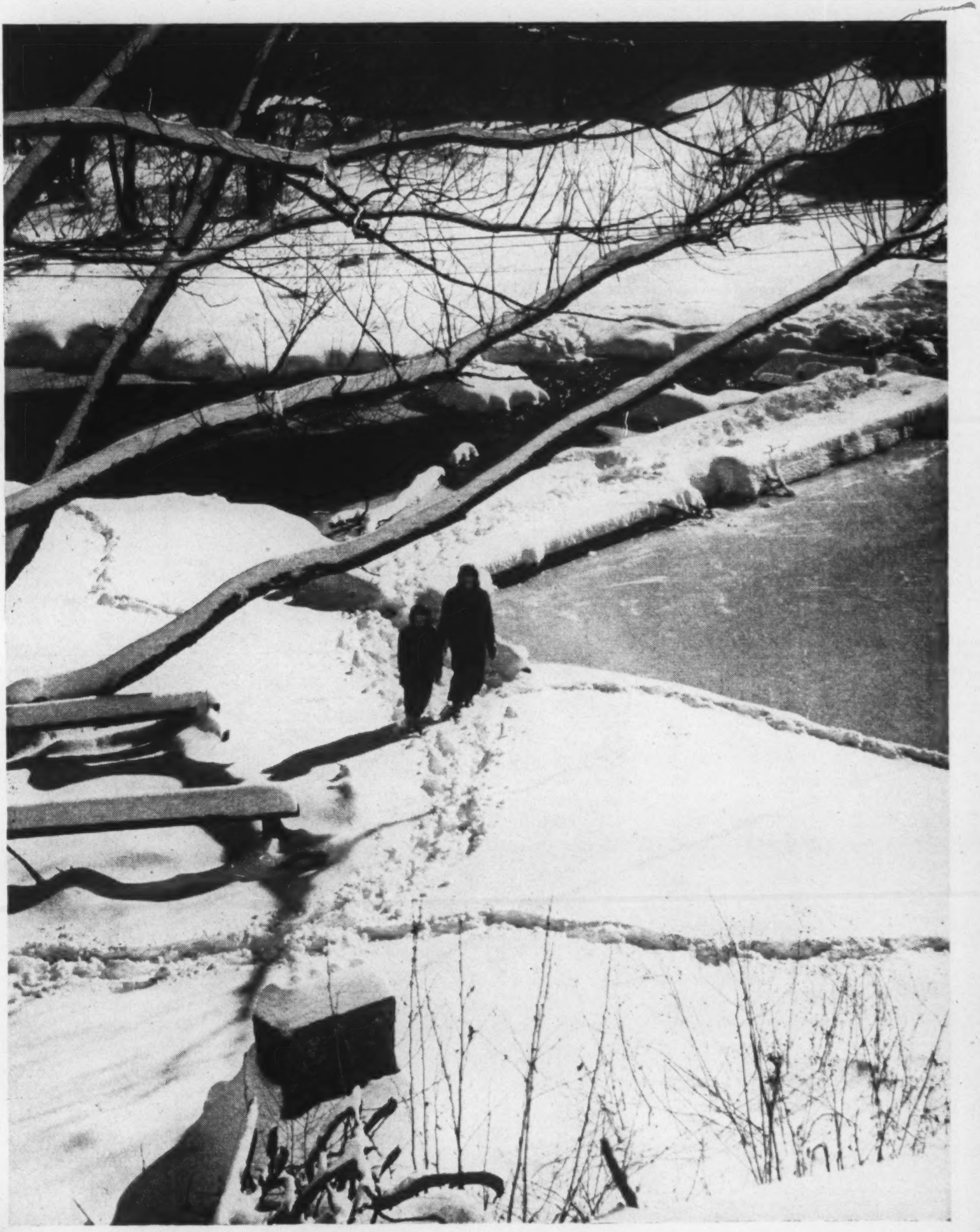

All that's happy
and shining and bright

"... ON CHRISTMAS DAY, IN THE MORNING."

THE ROBERT SIMPSON COMPANY LIMITED

Photograph by Karsh

Queen of the Silver Blades . . . Barbara Ann Scott dances on the clouds in this latest photograph but it is a significant tribute to her poise and character that Karsh, a fellow Ottawan, portrays her with her head well above the clouds. This week Barbara Ann made her debut as a professional skater before audiences in New York where, Canadians are confident, her matchless perfection as a skater will win new laurels for her and her native country.

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WORLD OF WOMEN

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BERNICE COFFEY, *Editor*

CONCERNING FOOD

To Greet the New Year

By MARJORY THOMPSON FLINT

THE Christmas tree in the corner is gay and brilliant with decorations and underneath it the gifts are on display minus their colorful wrappings and along with them a fair collection of pine needles which you persistently try to clean up—a losing game no matter what tactics you use. The holly, candles and Christmas cards on the mantel all give forth a feeling of warmth and good will and as you sit surveying the scene the things which annoy you most about the room (the scratches on the coffee table, the darkened wall space over the radiator, etc.) seem to vanish.

In this mellow mood you wonder if you shouldn't invite some friends in for New Year's Eve. You realize that there is much to be said against the idea—the dearth of baby sitters, friends going skiing over the week-end, your tired feet and the poor battered budget, but as you knew from the start, you will be having a party. You wish now that you had planned on having New Year's dinner at a restaurant but that is impossible at this late date and you are truly grateful that you are just serving dinner for six on this particular occasion.

You arrange your thoughts into some sort of order and start to make plans beginning with the dinner menu. The main course sets the keynote for the whole meal and despite the fact that you hear some people complain about a surfeit of poultry at this season of the year you decide that Roast Capon will be your dish. Here is the menu for New Year's Dinner.

Broiled Sherried Grapefruit
Assorted Relishes
(Some left over from New Year's Eve)
Roast Capon Parsley Dressing
Duchess Potatoes
Broccoli Harvard Beets
Spiced Crabapples
Poppyseed Rolls
Black Bottom Pie

Broiled Sherried Grapefruit

3 grapefruit
6 tbsps. sherry
3 tbsps. light brown sugar
3 tsps. butter

Halve grapefruit. Cut around core with scissors and remove. Loosen each section by cutting around it with a sharp knife. Pour 1 tablespoon sherry on each half and let stand ½ hour. Sprinkle halves with brown sugar and dot with butter. Place under broiler for 10 minutes or until warmed through and lightly browned around the edges. Serve at once.

Roast Capon

Requires the same treatment as chicken allowing 35 minutes per pound, drawn weight, in oven 325°F, in uncovered roasting pan.

Black Bottom Pie

This is a dessert classic from the deep South—New Orleans and thereabouts. It sounds like a fair chore to accomplish but you will find that it runs along very smoothly and the resulting product is exceptional (quite an understatement).

Crust:

1½ cups crisp ginger cooky crumbs
½ cup melted butter

Roll out the cookies. Mix with melted butter. Line a nine inch pie tin, sides and bottom, with the buttered crumbs, pressing flat and firm. Bake ten minutes in a slow oven 325°F to set. You can use a graham cracker crust if you are unable to locate ginger cookies.

Basic Filling:

4 tbsps. cold water
1 tbsp. gelatine
1¾ cups milk
1 tbsp. cornstarch
½ cup sugar
4 egg yolks
Pinch of salt

For Chocolate Layer:

2 squares melted chocolate
1 tsp. vanilla

For Rum-Flavored Layer:

4 egg whites
⅛ tsp. cream of tartar
½ cup sugar
1 tbsp. rum

Topping:

2 tbsps. confectioners' sugar
1 cup whipping cream

Soak the gelatine in cold water. Scald the milk. Beat egg yolks and add sugar, cornstarch and salt and combine thoroughly. Add a small amount of hot milk to the egg mixture and then return gradually to hot milk stirring constantly. Cook in double boiler until the custard thickens and will coat the back of a spoon. Stir in the softened gelatine and dissolve. Divide the custard in two parts.

To one-half add the melted chocolate and the vanilla. If the appearance is "curdled" beat with rotary beater. Turn while hot into cooled crust, dripping out carefully so as not to disturb the crust.

Let the remaining half of the custard cool. Beat the egg whites and cream of tartar adding one-half cup of sugar slowly. Blend with the cooled custard. Add one tbsp. rum. Spread carefully over the chocolate layer. Place in ice box to chill thoroughly. It may even stand over-night. When ready to serve, whip the cream stiff, adding 2 tbsps. confectioners' sugar slowly. Pile over the top of the pie. Sprinkle with grated bitter or semi-sweet chocolate.

For New Year's Eve

Buffet service is the most practical and prettiest for this occasion and, since all of your guests will be present for the whole evening (and part of the morning), you don't have to cater to the come-and-go crowd which means that the food can be served at one time—much easier on you!!

Relishes

Radishes, Olives, stuffed and ripe,
Anchovy Fillets or Pickled Herring
Gherkins, Julienned Celery
Chopped Relish

Cold Meat Tray

Ham Rolls, Sliced Tongue, Sliced
Pressed Meat Garnish—Devilled
Eggs and Watercress
Potato Salad (plain but popular)
Jellied Beet and Horseradish Ring
Centre filling of Cottage Cheese.
Baked Cheese Pudding

Buttered Rye and French Bread

Tray of Assorted Dried Fruits

Stuffed Dates, Prunes,
Table Figs, Raisins
Hot Sugared Doughnuts Fruit Cake

The cold meats have to be of the variety which can be cut with a fork since this is to be eaten off the lap. The ham rolls are slices of ham wrapped around a stalk of canned asparagus. The tongue and pressed meat are tender enough to yield to the fork treatment. Divide the meat assortment with devilled eggs and garnish liberally with watercress.

A hot dish is optional but if you like to serve one the Cheese Pudding can be made sometime during the day ready to slip into the oven 45 minutes before serving time. It exudes a delicious aroma while baking which may tickle the most jaded appetite.

Heat the sugared doughnuts (store bought variety) in paper bags in oven after the pudding is baked.

Baked Cheese Pudding

6 slices bread or toast
¼ cup soft butter
2½ cups diced processed cheese
3 slightly beaten eggs
2½ cups milk
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. dry mustard

Spread bread with butter and cut each slice in four pieces. Alternate layers of bread and cheese in baking dish, with top layer of cheese. Combine eggs, milk, and seasonings; pour over bread and cheese. Bake in slow oven (325°F) 30 to 45 minutes, or until mixture doesn't adhere to knife. Serves 6.

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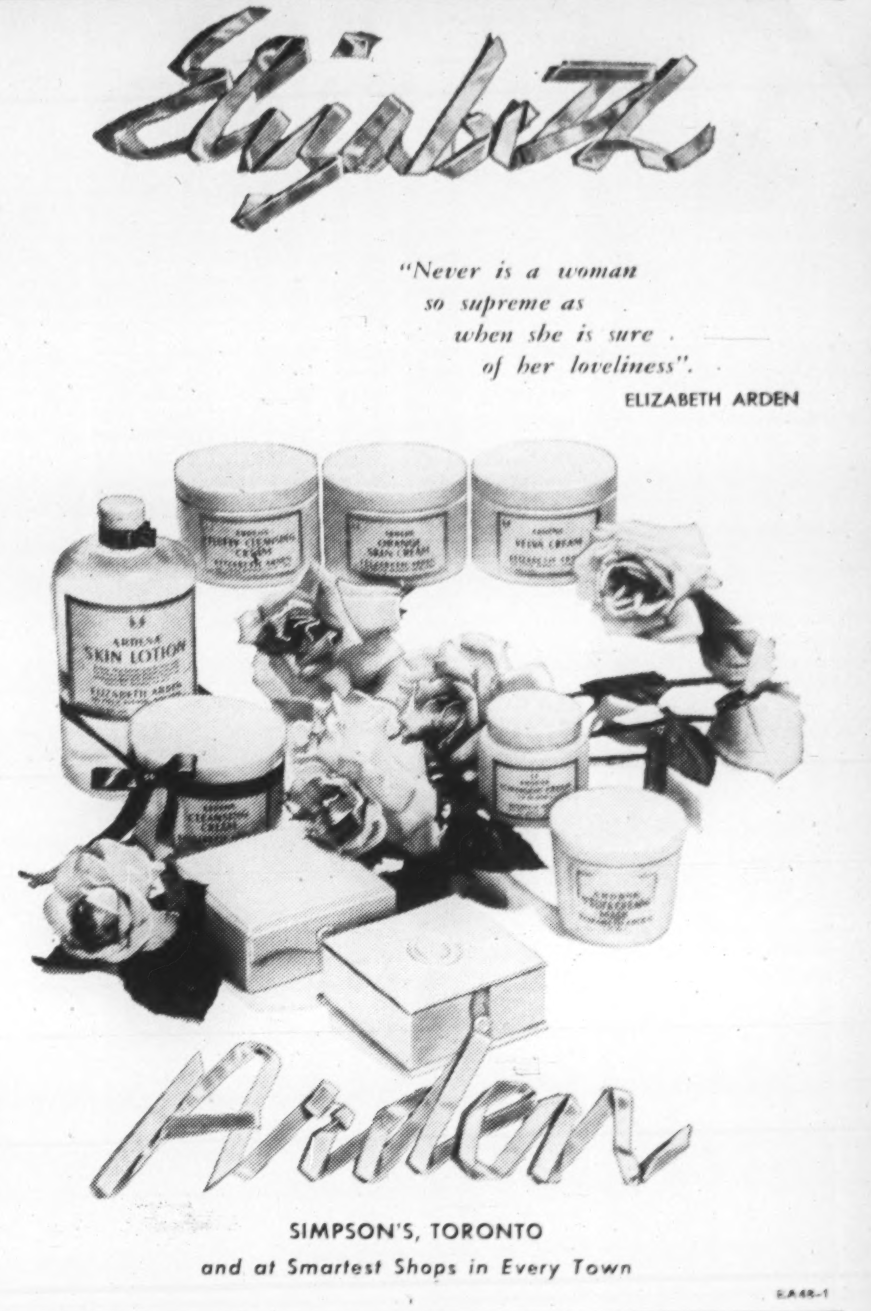
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BRAIN-TEASER

A Christmas Cracker

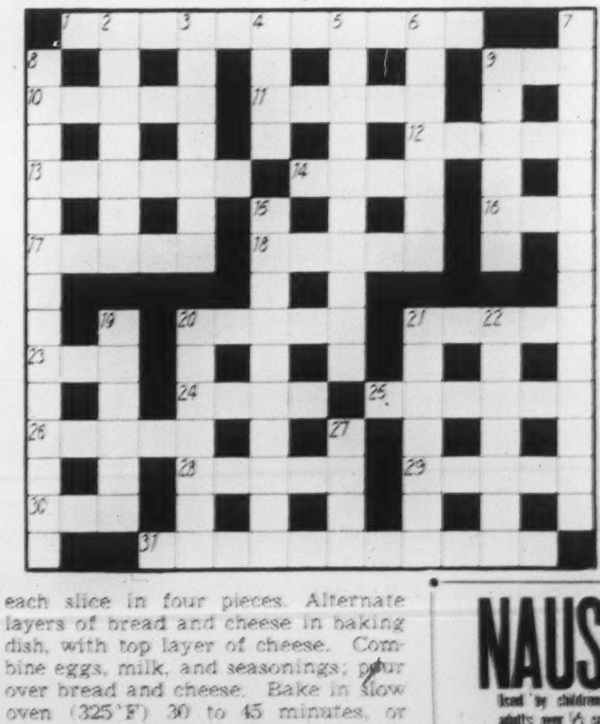
By LOUIS and DOROTHY CRERAR

ACROSS

1. and 31. Thank you! And the same to you. (11, 2, 3, 6)
9. Bill and it make love together. (3)
10. Live fence. (5)
11. Vassal city of Belgium. (5)
12. Material which keeps its shape when sat in. (5)
13. Bird that spends Christmas inside. (6)
14. We all have since last Christmas, egad! (4)
16. Are fish reduced to this when the fire goes out? (3)
17. His pet swallows little Edward feet first. (5)
18. With the right Christmas spirit(s) you may even manage to love yours. (5)
20. Hawk's pick-me-up? (5)
21. Chart for a toothy bar. (5)
23. Something seasonable to slip on quickly. (3)
24. Lake cabbage. (4)
25. Running water disturbs the morning rest. (6)
26. According to Melville you must choose a mighty one to produce a mighty book. (5)
28. Decrease the volume by a thousand and reassemble. (5)
29. No . . . . . is good news to the condemned man. (5)
30. Adam's was watery, we presume. (3)
31. See 1.

DOWN

2. At home or restaurant your Christmas 13 must be first. (7)
3. We hope you are when Santa brings yours. (7)
4. Hands the devil employs. (4)
5. They're all spruced up for Christmas. (10)
6. Day to mix suet for the Christmas pudding? (7)
7. "As I drew in my head and was turning around, ... Saint Nicholas came with a bound" (C. C. Moore) (4, 3, 7)
8. Australians wouldn't dream of having one. (5, 9)
9. Does Kitty take one after her Christmas dinner? (6)
15. Santa's chuckle. (5-5)
19. Sounds necessary to sow again. (6)
20. An imitation of Santa's departure? (4-3)
21. Round at the round house? (7)
22. Should a lot more change to a vocal wobble? (7)
27. Hardy girl. (4)



Solution for Last Week's Puzzle

ACROSS

1. Fielding
5. Scott
9. Trollope
10. Breath
11. Ensign
12. Stripped
15. Stock phrases
17. Elastic bands
22. Cadenzas
23. Crerar
25. Stairs
26. Gatineau
27. Terms
28. Cockeyed

DOWN

1. Father
2. Egoist
3. Delight
4. Naps
6. Cartier
7. Trappist
8. Shades
13. Top hat
14. Acacia
16. Card game
17. Encase
18. Tantrum
19. Derrick
20. Greedy
21. Around
24. Halo.

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MUSIC

Carols And "Messiah"

By JOHN YOCOM

AN ANNUAL gilt-edged carol presentation in Toronto is that given by the boys and men of St. Simon's Church. Last week "Christmas Music in Court and Cathedral", with organist and choirmaster E. S. Lewis directing, was again a smooth blending of tableaux and fine singing, and the popular Yuletide feature filled Eaton Auditorium. The carols were grouped as French, Italian, Mediaeval English, those of the Dickens' period, and Modern English Carols. Many were unaccompanied while others had just a *soupçon* of harpsichord or organ by Mr. Lewis and some in the modern group with organ accompaniment by Mr. John Bradley. Richly colored costumes, made authentic by Mr. Lewis's research, and effective stage settings by Patricia Card added to the drama.

The ensemble tone was fully resonant, blending was as smooth as silk. As was to be expected the boy soprano voices, especially that of soloist Barry Knibbs, were the distinctive feature with the tenors a close second. Balance was mostly well secured, but while the basses were accurate, they were not impressively robust for some of the *a cappella* work presented. Attacks and releases were invariably precise, quite a feat when one noted that in addition to undirected singing much of Mr. Lewis's conducting was from the organ desk at the side, visible to only half the choir. In some numbers (more noticeably in the Italian songs), expressive variations that the music and words suggested were not always given full attention. But this deficiency of sameness was completely absent in the modern group. Here the choir ranged a strikingly dramatic gamut, noting all kinds of subtleties—"Before the Paling of the Stars" (Rossetti-Barker), "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" (Thalben-Ball), "Bethlehem Town" (Blunt-Warlock).

"Messiah" performances have gone on all across Canada throughout the month. We note a few here. On Dec. 9 the combined Vancouver choirs of Memorial United Church and Ryerson Church performed the famous work. Choirs conductors were Ifor Roberts and Burton Kurth; the organist was Mrs. Stanley Turnbull. On Sunday, Dec. 12, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Jacques Singer, assisted by the Bach Choir and the Burrard Male Choir, presented the "Messiah". It was the last concert to be given by the orchestra before Christmas. The second half of the season will open on Thursday, Jan. 6, with a Pop concert, and the first subscription concert on Jan. 9.

The "Messiah" was given in Winnipeg's Civic Auditorium on Dec. 20 by the Philharmonic choir and a 40-piece orchestra under the direction of Bernard Naylor. Soloists taking part included Elma Gislason, Olga Irwin, Margaret Softley and Anne Bilous, sopranos; Myfanwy Evans and Ruth Helen Tait, contraltos; George Kent and John Goertz, tenors, and Bert Whiteman, Ronald Dodds and Will Rook, basses. The "Messiah" was last presented in Winnipeg March 28, 1944, by a local choir and the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Dmitri Mitropoulos.

The Ottawa Choral Union did it on Dec. 15 with an impressive line-up of out-of-town soloists including soprano Helen Boatwright of New Haven, Conn., Mary Van Kirk, Met contralto, and Chester Watson, New York bass.

The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir will perform the "Messiah", with Sir Ernest MacMillan conducting and the T.S.O., in Massey Hall, Dec. 28-29.

•

When the second Canadian Ballet Festival is held in Toronto during the first week of March, there will be at least six Canadian teams participating. A 30-piece orchestra under the direction of Samuel Hersenhoren and Paul Scherman will handle the musical scores. Groups taking part are: Lockhart-McBirney group, Vancouver; Winnipeg Ballet Company; Ruth Sorel Group of Modern Dancers, Montreal; Le Duc Toumine Group of Dancers, Ottawa; Hamilton Ballet; Volkoff Canadian Ballet, Toronto.

•

Distinguished adjudicators appointed for the British Columbia Musical Competition Festival sponsored by the Knights of Pythias to be held May next are: Helen Henschel, one of the U.K.'s leading vocal authorities, (vocal); Herbert Wiseman, Edinburgh, Scotland, (choral); Cornelius Fisher, London, England, (piano) and J. Peebles Conn, Glasgow, Scotland, (piano and strings).

Halifax Festival

"Plans are already well under way for the Halifax Musical Festival of 1949," says a Halifax *Herald* editorial. "Although the opening date at present is set as May 26, the committees responsible have accomplished much of their organization work and the syllabus is now completed. . . . The coming festival is especially important because it will become part of the many activities of the city's bicentennial year. It is to be hoped, then, that when the entry list closes on March 15, a record number of contestants will be registered."

•

The Toronto Philharmonic Choir, under the baton of Robert S. Hately, presented their Christmas Carol Concert on Dec. 22 at Eaton Auditorium. The choir was accompanied by Simeon Joyce at the piano and Kathleen Williams at the piano. One of the features of the evening was audience participation in carol singing. The choir sang several national carols of other countries and also contributed the Fred Waring arrangement of "The Song of Christmas".

•

Charles Underwood, a young man from New Glasgow, N.S., who is head of the voice department at Greensboro, N.C., College, recently had the satisfaction of hearing New York judges pick two of his pupils for a year's training at La Scala School of Music, Milan. Out of 250 applicants only eleven were successful.

Jean Watson's Recital

THE audience which attended contralto Jean Watson's recital in Eaton Auditorium last week was unusually reserved in applause during the early part of the evening. Eventually, however, the consummate artistry of the singer overcame the handicap of being a Canadian and, at the end, this same audience was extremely loth to let her go, three encores being demanded and received. This approval was well-merited for Miss Watson combines a beautifully controlled voice with the dramatic skill of the born artist. Her presentation of Schubert's "Erlking" was a masterpiece of descriptive song, though very nearly matched by Saint-Saëns' "Dance Macabre". In both these, the work of her accompanist, George Trovillo, was particularly outstanding.

Lois Marshall, gifted Canadian soprano, who is the guest artist at the T.S.O.'s Christmas Eve "Pop".

Three very interesting songs written for Miss Watson by Professor John Duke of Smith College, not yet published, provided proof that she could be quite at home amid song which, in both words and music, were of the modern idiom. Perhaps we can look forward to hearing some by Canadian composers on future programs by Miss Watson.

Perhaps to display her technique, the program included several songs usually sung by a soprano. While Miss Watson possesses a rich and vibrant voice, she could not be expected to equal a good soprano in such songs as Mozart's "Alleluia" or Rossini's "Una voce poco fa". True, she sang them with greater skill than many a soprano we have heard but the presentation suffered when compared with her rendition of such songs as "Widmung" by Franz, which lay within the best part of her voice. Nevertheless, this criticism is purely relative and it was a concert which ranked very high in the "Artist Series" presented by Eaton Auditorium.—F.A.

SYMPHONY
POP
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THE OTHER PAGE

Poles Apart

By DAVID BROCK

"I WAS admiring your totem poles," I said to Chief Moses Johnny.

"Yes?" he said.

"Yes. They must be very old."

"No totem pole is old," he answered. "It is quite a new art on the Coast. It became a fad about two hundred years ago, maybe less. Then it died out again."

"That seems a pity," I said. "They are very beautiful."

"Some are, some aren't," he said. "A lot of white artists don't know that yet. Say, can you tell me why some of these artists don't make their own damn poles if they're so crazy about them? And why does everybody around here want to pretend he's an Indian?

"It isn't as if they *liked* the Indians, except as freaks and savages. You know Siwash means *sauvage*, don't you? Out at U.B.C. the teams call themselves Thunderbirds. What for? In England you don't get teams calling themselves Ancient Britons and painting themselves blue. The first Christians there didn't put up pictures of Thor and Odin. The Australians who settle in the Solomons don't pretend they are cannibals, especially after the natives have given up their diet . . . Nobody there cuts pork into dolls to please the tourist."

"Yes, but Americans in Hawaii pretend they are Kanakas," I broke in. "And look at New Zealand, for the love of Mike."

"Ah," said Moses Johnny, "New Zealand has some kind of totem poles, I think. There must be something fatal about totem poles. And do you know, I used to be rather fond of the old things before you guys spoiled them for me?"

"How could we spoil them by admiring them?"

"Easy," he said. "By patronizing them. By cheapening them—look at the toy poles made in Japan and other places to be sold in Vancouver junk shops. By over-doing your painting of them. By reading things into them that aren't there—menace and gloom and divinity and God knows what. They are not idols, you know. By thinking of me myself as a kind of walking totem pole—old-fashioned, rotten, quaint. By thinking of me as a man who couldn't ever do a damned thing except make poles and who has now forgotten even that. We've forgotten the poles. I wish you'd pay us the compliment of doing the same. It would do *you* good, too."

"I'll try," I said, somewhat insincerely. I had my eyes on three more I wanted to paint.

"You'd better," he said. "I've got a young son at art school right now. I'll tell him to paint nothing but stage-coaches."

"People would like it for the Christmas-card trade," I said. "They wouldn't see the joke."

"All right, I'll get him to paint nothing but pictures of your old-time parsons burning each other. And we'll play games among ourselves, pretending we are English parsons burning each other, and pretending we think it still goes on, and that we think it is romantic, mystical, and all the rest. We could talk sixteenth-century English, too. And . . . "

"You won't do any of it," I said. "And if you did, nobody would notice. Now, totems are different."

"Why?" he said. "How are they different?"

"There's money in them," I said.

He grinned a little ruefully. "The wrong guys are in the money."

"Whose fault is that?" I said.

"Not ours," said Moses Johnny. "Why, if we hadn't quit making them there wouldn't be half the market. Maybe no market at all."

"It's just one of those things," I said lamely.

"No, sir," he said. "It isn't. There isn't another thing like it this side of the North Pole. Well, I hope your fad busts even quicker than ours did."

"I should think it's bound to," I said. "When the last pole rots, artists won't go round the galleries copying each other's pictures."

"Why ever not?" said Chief Moses Johnny.

"Well, no artist wants another's ideas," I said. "He wants to create, not copy."

"Is that a fact?" said the Chief, and his eye travelled from mv canvas to his grandfather's pole and back again to my canvas. Then it winked at me.

CANDLE LIGHT

LIKE a lone star amid the black of night,
My candle casts a ring of lambent light;
And in its mystic circle dreams arise,
Forgotten dreams and childhood memories;
Faces and scenes of long, long years ago,
Are conjured up beneath the candle glow.

Backward my dreaming goes far down the years,
And in my mind a vision dim appears
Of Shakespeare sitting in a narrow room,
Writing his plays alone amid the gloom:
Faces and scenes that live in deathless fame,
He conjures up beneath the candle flame.

Here Doctor Johnson sits in solitude,
And there is Blake in rapt ecstatic mood;
Yonder is Goldsmith, writing tales for bread,
And there's De Quincey, sitting up in bed:
Each working magic, mid the black of night,
In the charmed circle of the candle light.

J. LEWIS MILLIGAN

• •

THE TELESCOPE OF TIME

TIME over-runs the clocking of the hours!
There are not twenty-four from dawn to dawn,
But fewer every year . . . Those gallant flowers,
Which tossed in endless glory on the lawn,
During a golden childhood, took their flight
Before the summer even half-began;
Stars that went showering from the cliffs of night,
Were quenched in space; October swiftly ran
Along the sun's descending autumn arc,
Until, quite unbelieved, harsh winter gales
Jostle the house, and blow the whirling dark
Into great sheets of sound, like cracking sails;
Sleep has dissolved the night, and work, the day,
And journeying time's become a noiseless, thin
Cascade to spill the hurried months away,
And now . . . all winter's howling to come in!

MARTHA BANNING THOMAS

IN MOURNFUL NUMBERS

("In the not too distant future, humans may well bear number rather than names."—News Item.)

DEAR 7456893,
The woman I adore,
I yearn for you as earnestly
As mariner for shore;
Say, would it be too bold of me
To call you 74?

Dear 74, assuage my thirst—
My *Joi de vivre* renew!
My arteries began to burst
Ere yet you came in view:
It was your figure, dear that first
Attracted me to you.

Dear 74, for you I ache
In every hew and bone;
Dear 74, one cannot make
Sweet music all alone;
So, 74, be kind, and take
My number for your own. J. E. P.

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THE BUSINESS FRONT

P. M. Richards, Financial Editor SATURDAY NIGHT, TORONTO, CANADA, DECEMBER 25, 1948 *Rodney Grey, Asst. Financial Editor*

Special Trade Deal With U.S.A. Is Step Towards Annexation

By WYNNE PLUMPTRE

When Mr. Dewey seemed certain to be elected president of the United States, Ottawa naturally began to make plans on that basis. It was found that, while the Republicans were very unlikely to go farther along the Democrats' line of lowering tariffs against all the world, some of them were willing to consider a special deal with Canada.

Ottawa still seems to be thinking to some extent along this line, despite the fact that we are already dangerously dependent on the U.S. market for our exports and despite the fact, indicated both by history and by recent events, that "reciprocity" with U.S.A. leads towards "annexation". Mr. Plumptre argues that, with Mr. Truman elected, we should stand firm on our traditional policy of expanded trade all around, with no special deals in any direction—especially not in the direction of the United States.

NOT very long ago we all thought that Mr. Dewey and his Republicans were going to win the U.S. elections. This was the general view in Ottawa as well as everywhere else, so it was natural enough that in Ottawa people should lay their plans on the basis of a Republican sweep.

But the Republicans did not sweep; they were swept. And it is not quite clear that Ottawa has entirely unplanned the plans, has entirely unthought the thoughts, that developed when Mr. Dewey's star was high in the heavens.

If one looks back over the history of the two American parties, and asks where the chief differences between them lie, one of the most important differences will be found in the field of trade and tariffs. Since World War I the Republicans have always put the tariff up whenever they got a chance; the Democrats have always put it down.

Nor is this simply a result of the fact that the two parties have been in power at different times and faced different conditions. It is true, of course, that the Republicans were in power when the two major depressions broke out—at the beginning of the 1920's and at the beginning of the 1930's—and at both times they tried to cure the situation by raising the tariff. There was the Fordney-McCumber Tariff of 1922 and the Smoot-Hawley Tariff of 1930.

But the Democrats were also in power in a depression. Mr. Roosevelt took over in 1933, and with Mr. Cordell Hull he introduced the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act in 1934. The years 1933 and 1934 were certainly not prosperous, yet both Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Hull, unlike Mr. Hoover and the Republicans, believed that lower tariffs, not higher tariffs, would bring back better business.

Three Treaties With Canada

Mr. Roosevelt, and after him Mr. Truman, made treaties with countries all over the world. They made three with Canada. From the beginning, the Democrats tried to make sure that the effects of each treaty spread outwards like the waves from a pebble dropped into a pond; they insisted that each treaty should include the "most favored nation" clause.

In other words, if the U.S. reduced its tariff on wood products when negotiating with Sweden, Canada as well as Sweden would get the benefit of the reduction. Conversely, if we reduced our tariff against American metal goods, other countries, as well as the U.S. would be able to compete more freely in the Canadian market. In this and other ways the United States tried to loosen the noose that was throttling world trade in the 1930's—the noose of special two-sided barter deals which looked attractive to the two countries directly concerned but which cut off all trade in other directions.

During World War II the U.S. used its Lend-Lease Agreements as a lever in the same direction. Under these agreements the countries that got Lend Lease aid promised to avoid special, barter arrangements and to trade with all countries on an equal basis without special preferences and similar devices.

The same principles were set out in the draft of the International Trade Organization which the U.S. put before other countries at the Geneva Convention of 1947. And, largely as a result of the U.S. pressure, most of the Geneva countries now stand ready to set up the I.T.O. as soon as the U.S. is ready to do so.

All this happened under the Democrats. What were the Republicans saying? They opposed the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act from the beginning. They cut down its scope and effectiveness in 1947, when they had control of Congress. Mr. Dewey and his immediate advisers did not oppose the act. But would he have been able to control Congress? If bad times came around again, would there be any hope of a Hull rather than a Hoover attitude towards the tariff?

A Difficult Choice

It appeared, however, that even the less liberal Republican leaders, like Senator Taft, were willing to consider a special arrangement with Canada. They would not consider a general extension of trade agreements; they would not agree to the birth of the International Trade Organization which was likely to die without their midwifery; but they would talk about reciprocal tariff reductions between Canada and the United States.

This put a difficult choice before Ottawa. From the beginning, or at any rate since the disappearance of Mr. R. B. Bennett from the Prime Minister's office, Ottawa had been increasingly in favor of the Democrats' trade policy: lower tariffs and the elimination of quotas, barter agreements and other special preferences.

Yet here were the Republicans who seemed to be saying: Forget about all this business of many-sided trade; we aren't sold on it and never were; but we would be quite happy to make a nice special deal with you folks up there; we like you and have nothing to fear from you; if you are ever going to get rid of those aggravating import-restrictions that Mr. Abbott and Mr. Howe put on you will have to sell more to us and get more dollars; here's your big chance!

And it was true. If the Republicans refused to lower tariffs against imports from overseas, refused to take more goods from the rest of the world just as they refused to do so after World War I, then indeed we could not hope to get more U.S. dollars from our exports to overseas markets. The dollars simply would not be there. The only way for us to get more dollars, and to get rid of our import restrictions, would be to make a special deal with the U.S. which would let us increase our sales down there.

The last time we made a special deal with the U.S., back in 1854, it was considered by many people on both sides of the border as a step towards the complete union, economic and political, of the two countries. And our history might well have followed that path if the American Civil War had not intervened.

Again in 1911 there was talk of a special deal with the U.S. It was said by a number of prominent Americans that this was a step towards annexation of Canada. Partly on this issue, Sir Wilfrid Laurier lost the election in that year.

Last Spring some American magazines suggested that there should be complete freedom of trade between Canada and the U.S.—that all tariffs and other restrictions on the movement of goods across the border should be swept away. Yet if we want an instance of the way which border controls are needed to keep our independence we need only look at what has recently been happening to potatoes.

Floor Price on Potatoes

Washington, in its wisdom, put a "floor price" under potatoes some years ago. This year, with a bumper crop on both sides of the border, U.S. potato prices fell to the floor. Despite the U.S. tariff our potatoes started flooding in. Eventually the U.S. authorities complained that they would not go on buying up Canadian potatoes with U.S. taxpayers' money, so we have put special controls on the movement across the border and have put a much lower floor under some Canadian potatoes.

But if the border had been free of all controls what would have happened? Clearly, with no tariffs or other trade restrictions, prices would be the same on both sides of the border (except for transport costs). And how could Washington have a floor price without immediately supporting Canadian potatoes along with American? Naturally they will not do this. So, in the absence of border controls, Washington would surely insist that Ottawa must have a floor price too, and that the Ottawa floor would be on the same level as the Washington floor.

And so it would go. Wherever Washington had any sort of control over the economic life of the United States it would have to insist that Ottawa must put in exactly the same controls. This simply means, in these days when governments are everywhere, that Washington would be running Ottawa, and Ottawa might as well close up shop.

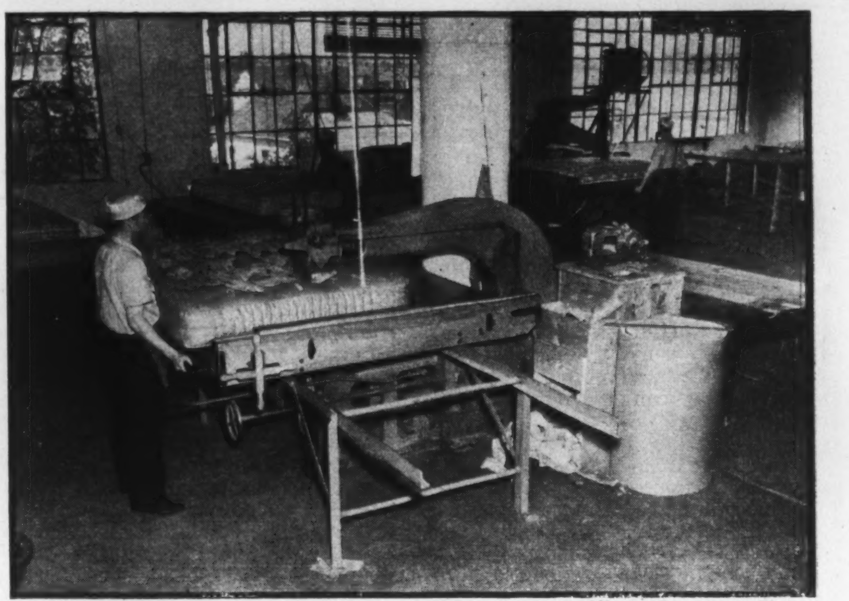
Lock-Step

Things are bad enough as it is. A potato floor in the United States may mean, with bumper crops on both sides of the border, that we are forced to put in some sort of a floor also. But at least we are only forced to do so under rather special conditions—when the crops are both bumper—and we do not have to choose the same floor (actually our floor is only about half as high as theirs). If the border controls were "wiped out" we would have to march in step all the time and all the way.

These were the sort of nightmares that afflicted Ottawa while Mr. Dewey and Mr. Truman were fighting it out south of the border. Since almost everyone agreed that Mr. Dewey had won in advance, Ottawa believed it would find itself between Mr. Dewey and the Deep Blue Sea. So it made ready to go along with Mr. Dewey; there was a good deal of discussion of a special trade deal with the U.S.

One might have thought that Ottawa would have awakened on the morning of November 3, read that Mr. Truman and the Democrats had been elected, and breathed happily "Good-bye to all that!" Some people in Ottawa did indeed do so. But

(*Continued on Next Page*)



—Alberta Government Photo.

ALBERTA INDUSTRY: Many industries are opening up in Alberta, where there are large supplies of natural gas and soft coal. Photo shows the mattress finishing shop of a bedding company in Edmonton.

THE BUSINESS ANGLE

Recession Now

By P. M. RICHARDS

A LOT of people are doing a lot of talking about whether or not there's going to be a business recession. This talk is off the beam in one important respect. It's not a matter now of "going to be"; a recession is actually in effect now. Consumer demand for many goods has fallen off sufficiently to cause some production slow-downs and labor lay-offs; some price declines have appeared. However, it seems to be quite a mild recession so far, and the real question is as to how far the new trend is going—whether or not it will deepen into a serious depression.

It has been pointed out here more than once that our position today, at this stage of the war and postwar boom, is very different from that which existed in 1929. Then we were over-extended in almost every field. Today in automobiles, housing, industrial equipment and many other lines, there is still a large and active unsatisfied demand. Activity in these industries does much to create it in others. Furthermore, today there's our new rearmament program to take up production slacks as they develop. The size of this program will no doubt be influenced by the degree of aggressiveness of the Russians, but even a quite small program, entered upon when our economy is so near to full employment, should prove very effective in preventing development of a general slump.

And rearmament or no rearmament, we can be certain that the government would do everything in its power to prevent a real depression, not only because a depression is bad for it politically and financially but because governments today virtually admit responsibility for the support of all unemployed. The government would greatly increase its spendings for public works and social security services, and employment and relief in various forms would be manufactured on a big scale. Certainly government powers are very big today, and we can be sure they would be more effective in combatting an incipient depression than one already in full swing.

It may well be doubted, then, that we face a major slump in business during the next year or so, despite the current rash of gloomy comments by businessmen who are painfully aware of a sudden weakening of consumer demand for many lines of goods. Admittedly, the weakening of demand is real, but it is probably due to postponement of decisions to buy, based on the sight of some lowering of prices and the natural hope that this movement will go further, rather than to cancellation of buying for any reason such as loss of employment. Despite some production slow-downs, there isn't enough unemployment to amount to anything; in fact, over-all employment in Canada continues at close to peak levels.

With employment holding up, and wages holding up (for wage scales will fall much later than employment does); and with government spending at least some rearmament money that increases consumer buying power without adding to the supply of consumer goods, the situation will not be one that makes for a real business slump or for a sharp drop in prices. The inflationary combination of an excessive money supply and a still inadequate supply of consumer goods will work against the deflationary influences of consumer resistance to high prices and consumer fear of the future and the sight of more goods coming on the market.

Which Will Win?

It remains to be seen which will win. For the time being, neither may do so, at least with any decisiveness; there may be no strong swing in either direction. Eventually, however, whether or not prices have moved sharply higher in the meantime, we can almost certainly count upon seeing a large-scale deflationary fall in prices. They will, of course, never go back to 1939 levels because of the many permanently higher costs which will help to establish them, such as the much-higher-than-pre-war cost of plant and equipment. But they will decline, perhaps substantially, since part of the present costs of labor and materials is based upon scarcity-value and we may suppose that eventually there will be no scarcity.

It is pleasant to know that the government stands ready to prop up (so far as it is able) the economy when it starts to sag, but we should not let ourselves forget the fact that an economy supported primarily by government spendings will certainly not be a healthy and secure economy. There is only one sound basis for any economy, and that is the fullest and freest production and exchange of goods and services. This, obviously, is a condition that does not consort with governmental direction and support. We are suffering today from the economic unbalances and distortions developed over many years of interference with freedom of enterprise. Government spending may help to keep business activity high over the next year or so but the eventual deflation and correction may be more severe as a result.

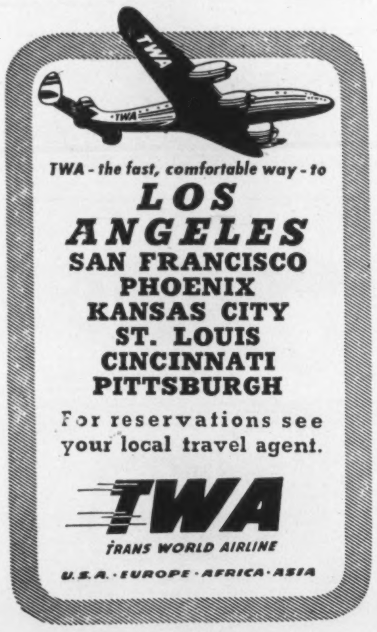
(*Continued from Page* 18)

others, it seems, had become so intrigued with the idea of a special deal with the U.S. that they are still going on with their plans although Mr. Dewey, for whom the plans were being made, is dead and buried as far as they are concerned.

Any remaining plans for a "special deal" with the United States should be thrown out of the window. Whether they take the form of a "customs union" or a "free trade area" or some other form of privileged reciprocity, we should have nothing to do with them. Thanks to Mr. Truman, we can afford to get along without them. The time has not yet come when we have to accept such a plan. We can still follow the path that we have followed for the past ten years—many-sided trade with special privileges for no country.

When the Democrats have had time to revise the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, and take out some of the snags that the Republicans put in, we should certainly try to reach a new trade agreement with the U.S. We may even want to try for a new agreement before that time—while we can use Mr. Abbott's and Mr. Howe's special trade restrictions as counters to be traded away in exchange for lower U.S. tariffs.

But whatever shape such a new trade agreement takes, and whenever it comes, it should be in the form now traditional for both the U.S. and ourselves. It should be open-ended not exclusive; it should be on a most-favored-nation basis and not a special barter arrangement; it should lower tariffs for all countries concerned and not set up some new sort of "Empire Preference". For if it did, we should very quickly be absorbed into the American empire.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Can "Natural" Interest Rate Bring Out New Capital?

By JOHN L. MARSTON

Saturday Night's Financial Correspondent in London

Business men and economists are arguing about the necessity of raising the interest rate in order to bring new capital forward. It is suggested that decontrol of capital in England could be effected by allowing the interest rate to rise by ½ per cent.

John L. Marston, writing from London, outlines the arguments and suggests that this problem will have to be settled if an adequate supply of savings is to be found.

London.

THERE has for some time past been a strong controversy in financial circles, particularly in the U.S.A. and Britain, concerning the desirability and effectiveness of a rise in bank rate. In the U.S.A. the persistent inflation has never allowed the subject to lie dormant for long; tentative efforts to make short-term borrowing dearer have, in fact, been made—but they were too tentative to have any obvious effect. In Britain the subject has only quite recently become really active since the failure of the disinflation policy associated with Sir Stafford Cripps.

It is nearly 17 years since the British Treasury virtually abandoned bank rate as an instrument of monetary policy. In all that time "cheap money" has been a policy in itself, and it has excluded major variations in interest-rates, such as would incline the banks to a liberal or selective attitude towards prospective borrowers, incline prospective borrowers to analyze their needs more or less carefully, and in other ways deter or encourage financial, commercial and industrial expenditure.

During and since the war it has been necessary to substitute direct controls for the indirect restraints which high interest-rates would have exercised in an inflationary period. Many people in the City of London are now saying out loud, what they have been murmuring for some while past, that these controls should be relaxed, and that the natural forces" should be given free play.

Incentive and Ability

The argument is related more to the supply of money perhaps, than to the demand for money. When interest-rates were at their lowest it was said that a long-term rate of some 2½ per cent gave so low a return that no one was encouraged to save. When the rate was allowed to rise to 3 per cent there was judged to be just sufficient incentive. But incentive to save is not enough, without the ability to save and very high taxation has taken so large a proportion of personal and industrial resources that the requisite savings are simply not available. But "cheap money" and inflation necessitate budgetary surpluses, which call for high taxation.

Writing for the Westminster Bank *Review,* of London Mr. F. W. Paish has lately made some rather alarming calculations regarding savings and surpluses. He has shown that net new investment in the two years of 1946 and 194 together was only about one-thirtieth of the total capital lost during the war years, about $36,000 million at 1948 prices—roughly a fifth of the U.K.'s total capital of 1939.

He has shown that a gross capital formation of some $900 million in 1947 personal savings accounted for $2,780 million; whereas the corresponding figure for 1948, with gross capital investment more or less unchanged, is only $10 million. The inevitable corollary of the shortfall of saving, which seems to be a long-term phenomenon, is a large and continuous surplus of revenue over expenditure in the national accounts, so that the State saves instead of the general public.

Is it, partly, to perpetuate this situation that the Treasury favors controls rather than "natural" stimuli and deterrents? Evidently not, for the same reluctance to allow higher interest-rates is apparent in "free enterprise" America as in "controlled" Britain. The reluctance seems to be due first and foremost to the need to keep as low as possible the charge on the huge national debt.

It is hardly necessary to remark that a big proportion of the national debt would cost no more at higher interest-rates, because the terms are fixed; though conversions would be discouraged, and new loans would have to bear higher rates. What worries the Exchequer is, of course, the heavy volume of short-term debt. In Britain there are short-term bonds outstanding to a total of some $26,000 million, in addition ot the floating debt of some $11,200 million. The two categories together make up approximately a third of the total national debt.

Higher Interest Rates

The advocates of higher interest-rates do not think in terms less than ½ per cent. An increase of that order would evidently increase the interest charge on Britain's national debt by more than $160 million a year. This is a formidable sum. But it looks less formidable when whittled down by tax deductions (for income tax and surtax bring back to the Treasury a useful proportion of the sum paid out in interest), by subtracting the Treasury bills held by government departments, etc., (well over $8,000 million), and by allowance for the fact that some of the "shorts" are not finally redeemable until 1954. The apparent increase in the debt charge would in fact be less than a half of the $160 million above-mentioned.

Perhaps it is a bland assumption that a rise of ½ per cent would transform the financial situation while inflationary forces are as strong as at present. A larger increase would certainly involve serious risks, for the cost would be quite appreciable and would have to be made good somehow. But at least it can be said that a case has been made out for serious consideration of interest-rate policy, with the deliberate use of bank rate for controlling credit.

When this instrument went into disuse in the 1930's it was not easy to find useful employment for surplus funds. Now there is a permanent excess of demand for capital over the voluntary savings which should provide it. Higher interest-rates would tend to equate supply and demand.

SCIENCE FRONT

Scientists, Engineers Argue Color Values

By JOHN J. O'NEILL

New York.

SCIENTISTS, engineers, psychologists and artists are involved in a grand-scale disagreement about vision and light as part of the common phenomenon of seeing. They are unable to see "eye to eye," not only on the problem of how we see but also what we see and the right amount of light for seeing.

Faber Birren, of New York, who has applied the artist's color appreciation to the field of industry, criticizes the illumination engineers for taking the indications given by dead meters (which record either the amount of light or its brightness), as standards that are supposed to be a satisfactory substitute for eye response. The meters, he points out, in an article in *Illuminating Engineering,* are blind to color and reduce a pleasing view with beautiful nuances of light and shade to a single brightness index number.

Another situation which caused the artist in him to rebel is the illuminating engineers' standard of uniform brightness throughout the field of vision as the best condition for seeing.

Hospitals, he states, had an unpleasant experience with this standard. Twenty years ago they went in for an all-white color scheme—white walls, ceilings, floor furnishings and uniforms—and the cold monotony of the situation had a bad psychological effect on every one from patients to doctors.

Mr. Birren insists that seeing is done as much in the mind as in the eye—that the mind sees objects and uses light only as a messenger for conveying information about the objects.

Psychologist Differs

Dr. M. E. Bitterman, of the department of psychology, Cornell University, is critical of the claims of the illuminating engineers concerning the seeing ability of eyes under accepted standards and the relationship of lighting to efficiency of workers. He says that lighting tests do not tell a complete story.

In this connection he cited tests made on two groups of workers in the plant of the Western Electric Company in a Chicago suburb. One group had its lighting intensity increased in steps from twenty-four foot-candles to seventy. (A foot-candle is the light intensity one foot from a standard candle.) The other group had its light reduced from ten foot-candles to three.

In both groups the output of each individual increased, although one group had more light and the other less. The increased output in these cases was a measure of the response of the workers to being placed under test and not to the efficiency of lighting standards. He cites other experiments in which noise was used to interfere with the work of individuals, with similar contradictory results.

Dr. Hans Wallach, associate professor of psychology, Swarthmore College, recently performed critical experiments which throw light on the problem which has baffled lighting engineers as well as psychologists—the paradox that a white object looks just as white to the eye in a dim light as in a bright one, although meters give it an increasing gray index as the light intensity diminishes.

Dr. Wallach projected a small circular area of light on a w wall. It looked luminous rat than white. As light intensity wa reduced to lowest levels it continued to look luminous, did not appear white and showed no trace of gray.

When a concentric ring of light of lower intensity was thrown around the central disk the latter looked opaque white. When the outer ring was of higher intensity the central spot became gray or black, Dr. Wallach reports in *The Journal of Experimental Psychology.*

A color vision symposium at the recent meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science found the members unable to agree as to whether there were three, four or perhaps seven or more kinds of color receptors in the eye. They also could not agree on how we manage to perceive colors.

Dr. Matthew Luckiesh, of the Lighting Research Laboratory, General Electric Company, Cleveland, who has written a library of books and articles based on more than thirty years of research into many different aspects of psycho-physiological optics—the science of seeing—is not disturbed by criticisms of lighting practice.

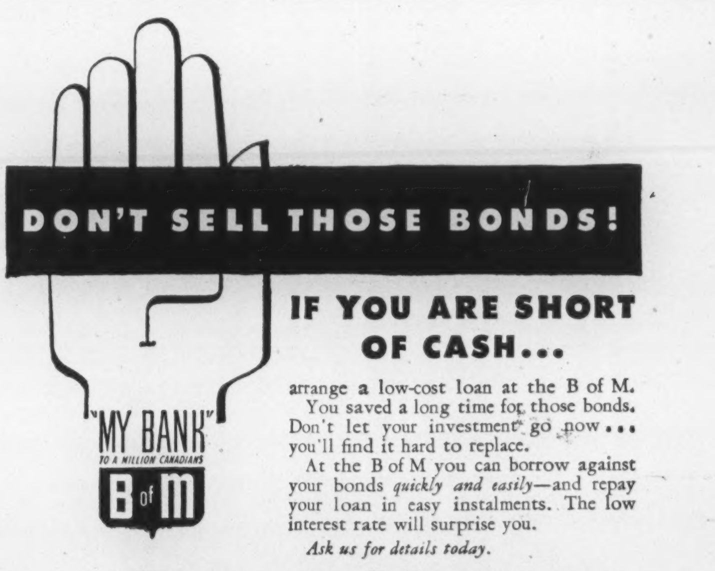
Many Tests Needed

In a reply in *The Journal of the Optical Society of America,* and in other articles, he finds illuminating engineering like medical practice. No one test tells the doctor all about the patient: many tests plus a large background of experience give both doctor and lighting engineer a basis for using judgment.

He thinks the 100 foot-candles standard is conservative and grants that 1,000 (as used by surgeons) and even 3,000 may be desirable for some tasks. Much research still remains to be done, he declares, before we completely understand seeing.

Dr. T. H. Bissonnette, of Trinity College, Hartford, has changed mating and egg-laying periods and other physiological functions in animals by changing lighting conditions under which they lived. Little has been done, however, in studying the physiological effects of light on human beings and its use in altering internal conditions.

Dr. Walter Timme, of New York, has reported that it is possible to stimulate the pituitary gland through the eyes without the use of any glandular extracts. A period of exposure to Florida sunshine, he finds, can raise this master gland of the body to a higher level of activity, the effect being caused by the increased amount of light absorbed by the eyes.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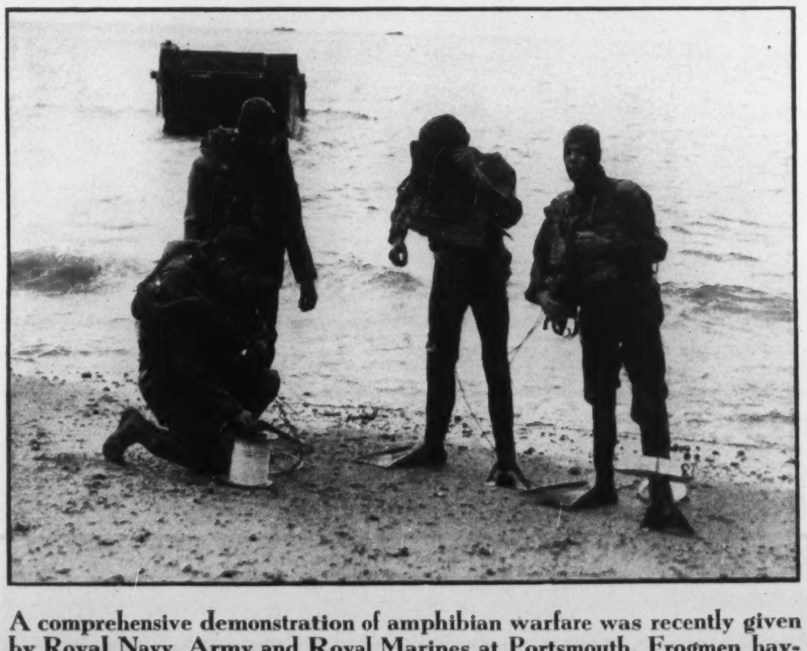
SPEAKING OF FREEDOM. The U.S. "Voice of America" broadcasts go out in some 16 languages. Here are microphones for use in German, Chinese, Russian, Spanish and Italian as "cold war" weapons.

The Malayan government's precautions against terrorists include patrol of rubber plantations. These policemen are in action near Selanger.



A comprehensive demonstration of amphibian warfare was recently given by Royal Navy, Army and Royal Marines at Portsmouth. Frogmen having attached mines to underwater obstruction come ashore to light fuses.

NEWS OF THE MINES

Consolidated Smelters Will Pay $6 A Share In Mid-January

By JOHN M. GRANT

AS 1948 approaches its end increasing evidence becomes available that Canada's base metal mines are enjoying record prosperity. New highs in profits will be established by most of the metal mining companies largely because of the spectacular rise in base metal prices, and expectations are that excellent markets, with prices at high levels, will continue for some years. Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, the world's largest producer of lead and zinc, is closing what will be the best year in its history from the point of dollar value of metals and by-products produced and sold.

•

Net earnings of Consolidated Mining and Smelting are calculated to exceed the $50,000,000 mark, or equivalent to between $16 and $17 a share, as against $11.38 in the previous year and $7.12 in 1946. A semi-annual dividend of $1.50 has just been declared plus a bonus of $4.50 a share, payable January 15, to shareholders of record December 20, which will bring total disbursements on the 1948 earnings to $11 a share, or $36,039,619, not only an all-time record for the company, but also the largest amount ever paid by a Canadian mining company in a 12 months' period. The mid-January distribution will amount to $19,657,974. The actual payments made in 1948 amount to $9.75 a share, as compared with $5.50 in 1947. In some quarters, however, a higher year-end extra appears to have been anticipated. The largest recipient of the record payment will be the Canadian Pacific Railway, which holds over 51 per cent of the issued Smelters' shares.

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The production of lead by Consolidated Mining and Smelting this year will, it is believed, be at least equal to the 1947 output, while the total lead and zinc production may exceed that of last year. The price of lead this year has climbed to 20.75 and zinc to 17.25 cents, with the average price for the year to date 17.23 and 13.10 cents respectively, as compared with an average price of 12.27 cents for lead and 10.12 cents per pound for zinc throughout 1947. Consolidated Smelters, is one of the largest mining and smelting enterprises in the world, and its widely diversified operations are all expected to show production and revenue well maintained in the past 12 months. The exploration and development program at outside properties has been carried on during the year at an accelerated pace, and one of the brightest spots is said to be the Con mine at Yellowknife. Recent developments have been quite favorable and indications point to a larger operation than the present capacity of 400 tons per day. The company has been active all through the Kootenays in a search for lead and zinc deposits. One of the properties now being explored is the Bluebell at Riondel, B.C. where an extensive drilling program has been carried out. Smelters is presently confining its exploration efforts mainly to the west coast, Northwest Territories and the Yukon, and is not anxious to go far beyond these limits until exploration has completely justified itself in the area of the Trail operation.

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In a Canadian stock market which has been giving a more favorable performance than its New York counterpart, base metal, oil and uranium issues appear to be about tops in interest. So extensive has been the investor interest in one of these groups—the oils—that the Canadian market has demonstrated a definite ability to establish a major market movement independent of New York, states J. Bradley Streit & Co., members of the Toronto Stock Exchange, in a timely article in the December issue of their *Investment Digest*. While base metals appear to be undergoing a short period of market consolidation, underlying news with respect to both current earnings and future prospects is decidedly encouraging, and the *Digest* adds, "a further upswing in this group of issues appears likely to follow on the heels of still higher dividend distributions." A reappraisal of Canada's oil possibilities, arising out of discovery of Leduc and Redwater oil fields has been reflected in a tremendous increase in demand for western oil issues, it points out. This demand has stemmed to a considerable degree from New York where investors have much wider experience in oil issues than the average Canadian. But interest is increasing too as Canadians become more oil conscious. Significance of western oil developments is not so much the importance of fields so far discovered as the fact that an immense area underlying the Canadian west is earmarked as favorable oil country. In referring to uranium the *Digest* states that the obvious market interest shown by buyers in uranium issues demonstrates that they are fully alive to the profit-making possibilities of a mineral which was little more than another product on the list of elements a few years ago. A price of $2.75 a lb. for uranium oxide (guaranteed for at least five years) provides assays in the thousand dollar class for the Alona Bay showings and quite comparable assays for Nicholson. If a good uranium deposit is established but a high-

STOCK MARKET OUTLOOK

By Haruspex

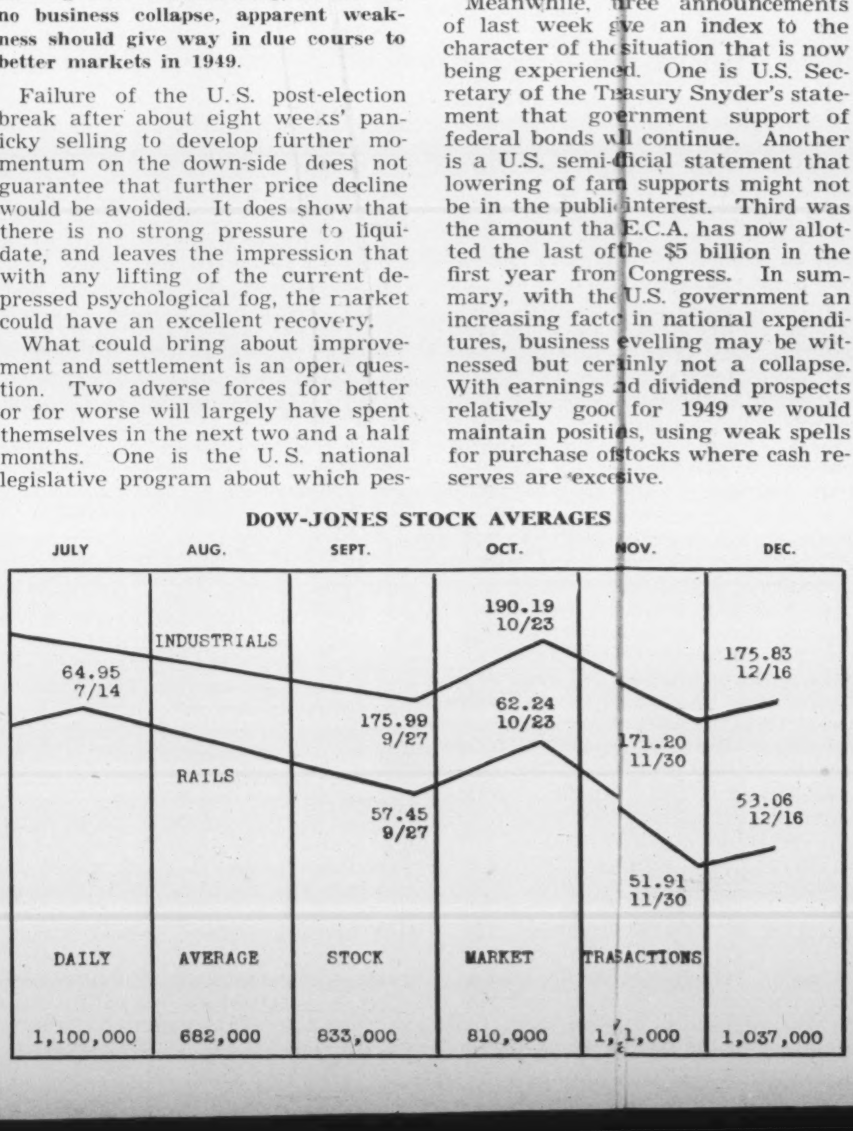
Stocks on the New York Exchange continue favorably priced from the earnings and yield standpoint but are currently under pressure from investor fears as to business outlook and possible adverse American legislation. Barring war and assuming, as we do, no business collapse, apparent weakness should give way in due course to better markets in 1949.

Failure of the U.S. post-election break after about eight weeks' panicky selling to develop further momentum on the down-side does not guarantee that further price decline would be avoided. It does show that there is no strong pressure to liquidate, and leaves the impression that with any lifting of the current depressed psychological fog, the market could have an excellent recovery.

What could bring about improvement and settlement is an open question. Two adverse forces for better or for worse will largely have spent themselves in the next two and a half months. One is the U.S. national legislative program about which pessimism has been advanced but which should be largely known to all by mid-July. The other is the Berlin Airlift whose operation over the winter months has been a source of concern. Once past February this problem should diminish.

Meanwhile, three announcements of last week give an index to the character of the situation that is now being experienced. One is U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Snyder's statement that government support of federal bonds will continue. Another is a U.S. semi-official statement that lowering of farm supports might not be in the public interest. Third was the amount that E.C.A. has now allotted the last of the $5 billion in the first year from Congress. In summary, with the U.S. government an increasing factor in national expenditures, business levelling may be witnessed but certainly not a collapse. With earnings and dividend prospects relatively good for 1949 we would maintain positions, using weak spells for purchase of stocks where cash reserves are excessive.

DOW-JONES STOCK AVERAGES



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By Order of the Board.

J. E. RILEY,
Secretary.

Montreal, P. Q.,
December 13th, 1948.

er price than $2.75 a lb. is necessary to make its operation profitable, the *Digest* suggests that authorities will be willing to consider a further advance in price.

•

A net profit of $6,499,164, equal to $2.90 per share, is estimated by Noranda Mines for the nine-months' period ended September 30. This compares with net of $4,458,636, equal to $1.99 per share, in the corresponding period of last year. Income for the first three quarters of the current year amounted to $12,837,660, including $9,368,557 metal production, against $10,771,584 total income in 1947.

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The first month of 1949 will see two gold mining companies resuming payments of dividends after a lapse of some time. Broulan Porcupine Mines will distribute two cents a share on January 10 to shareholders of record December 20, and this will be the first payment since December, 1945, when a like amount was paid. The resumption is due to improved earnings in 1948, the best for five years. Bralorne Mines has declared a dividend of 10 cents a share, payable January 15 to stockholders of record December 28, and this is the first dividend action by this British Columbia gold producer since April, 1946. Payments there were suspended due to labor troubles.

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To carry out a program of exploration and development recommended by Richard Murphy, geologist, International Uranium Mining Company plans increasing the authorized capital of the company by 1,000,000 shares to 4,000,000 shares. J. H. Greenberg, President, advises that an agreement has been negotiated providing for a firm underwriting of 250,000 shares for $87,498, and granting of options on a further 900,000 shares, at prices ranging from 40 cents to $1, which, if fully exercised, will provide the money required to fully carry out the recommended program and also provide funds for the construction of a concentrating mill and the other buildings and equipment necessary to treat the presently known pitchblende orebodies. Mr. Murphy, who was formerly chief geologist at the Canadian government owned Eldorado mine, after an examination of the property advised the extension easterly of work on the No. 3 vein on the 3rd level, and since his visit the east end of the vein has shown 55 feet of pitchblende ore over one foot in width with assays averaging .45% uranium oxide.

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All records are being topped in the current year's earnings at Golden Manitou Mines, Bourlamaque township, Quebec, where production commenced just over six years ago. At the beginning of the year H. W. Knight, president, estimated an operating profit of $900,000, but now it is believed the year's operating profits will amount to $1,295,308. A net profit of around $1,025,000 or 35 cents a share, after write-offs and taxes, is expected. The higher earnings are due to the advance in the price of lead and zinc, and the fact that the mill is operating at capacity of 1,000 tons daily. Further it is estimated that operating profit for 1949, calculated on a base of 15 cent zinc and 19 cent lead, and continuation of treatment of average grade at capacity rate, will be $1,800,000, from which a net profit of $1,447,000, or approximately 50 cents a share, is considered not unlikely. It is possible however, that profits will be even higher.

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In the past year production of most minerals has increased—substantially in the case of coal and oil—A.E. Arscott, president, Canadian Bank of Commerce, told shareholders at the annual meeting, and pointed out that mining resumed in 1948 the upward course which was interrupted in the early postwar period by labor shortages and the run-down condition of many properties following the wartime pressures for non-ferrous base metals of which Canada was one of the major sources of supply. One outstanding feature has been the further extensive development of the Alberta oil fields, now regarded as one of the major projects of its kind in the Western Hemisphere; so important is the extent of the discoveries of oil in this field that it seems to forecast a possibility of its reducing substantially our need of U.S. dollars to pay for the importation of petroleum products, he stated. Another important factor has been the exploration work on the Quebec-Labrador iron deposits, which has indicated ore reserves sufficient to justify commercial development on a scale which would make this area potentially one of the world's major sources of high-grade iron. There has also been discovered in Quebec a large body of titanium, making possible a decision by important and highly-qualified interests to mine and treat substantial quantities of this valuable mineral.

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An extensive exploration program was commenced on the Matarrow Lead Mines property, Yarrow township, Matachewan area, late in November using two drills to further explore, both on strike and depth, the lead-zinc zone indicated by earlier drilling. The property consists of 26 claims plus 10 claims under option. E. K. Fockler, consulting geologist, in a report dated October 21, 1948, states "commercially important tonnage possibilities are indicated by the results of the preliminary exploration recently completed. The average of the assays secured in six drill holes intersecting the main zone over a length of 800 feet are reported as 5.94% lead and 2.27% zinc over an estimated true width of 6.4 feet. The authorized capitalization of the company is 4,000,000 shares of which 1,333,333 shares were issued for 20 claims, 400,000 shares have been disposed of for $40,000, 1,300,000 shares are under option at prices of 20 to 50 cents per share. The officers and directors are John Pump, the prospector who staked the main showings, president; B. W. Lang, vice-president; R. A. Cranston, secretary-treasurer; C. A. Martin and J. C. Rogers.

•

Financing has been arranged by New Thurbois Mines Ltd, Destor township, Quebec, a reorganization of Thurbois Mines on a basis of one new share for four old, and A.C. Lee, consulting engineer, has been engaged to make a report on the property and recommend a program of development. The financing provides for a firm commitment on 450,000 shares to net the company $63,500 and for options on an additional 1,050,000 shares at prices ranging from 17½ to 35 cents per share. The old company sank a shaft and carried out about 900 feet of drifting on the 250-foot level, which resulted in indicating an estimated 745 tons per vertical foot averaging $6.30 per ton.

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The steel industry has stopped worrying about supplies of iron ore for the future, according to *The Iron Age*, trade weekly. The lack of ore had caused concern among some steel people, the publication said, "especially when possibility of war, defense plans, unprecedented domestic demand and general exhaustion of cheaply mined high grade ore were considered." However, most large steel firms are known to have as much as 15 to 20 years' reserve of high grade Mesabi ores, maybe more, the weekly added. Low grade ores in the Mesabi will "furnish the material for steelmaking long after many people now in the steel industry are dead and gone." There is plenty of magnetic ore in the Adirondack fields, and *Iron Age* points, in addition, there is plenty of ore—high grade—in Canada and in Latin America, and this is sure to be speedily developed.

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During the first nine months of 1948 Broulan Porcupine Mines milled 52,622 tons of ore for a recovery of $454,000, excluding gold assistance of $15,000. Operating profits, before taxes and write-offs, but including gold assistance, amounted to $175,000. The 1948 write-off for depreciation and deferred development may not exceed $5,000, B.W. Laing, president, states as there remains a balance of only $17,000 to be written off. Net current assets, after deducting liabilities, amounted to $379,000 as at September 30, 1948, exclusive of the value of shareholdings in Porcupine Reef, Bonetal and other companies. Bonetal operating profit is estimated at $16,000 for the nine months including gold assistance.

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Profit of $27,479, after deducting all costs other than depreciation, is reported by Powell Rouyn Gold Mines for the three months ended September 30, the second quarter of the company's fiscal year, and this compares with an operating loss of $19,120 in the preceding three months. The Powell mill was put in operation for custom trade around the middle of July and shipments of ore from Donalda Mines and Anglo Rouyn Mines are now being handled. The mill has a rated capacity of 450 tons and balance of capacity not taken up by customs ore will be utilized with ore from the Powell mine.

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The immediate objective at Cochenour Willans Gold Mines is to boost the mill rate from its present 220 tons a day to 250 tons without increasing tailings loss, W. P. Mackle, mine manager, informed shareholders at the recent annual meeting. Next spring, he said, he hoped to be able to recommend to directors a substantial increase in the rate beyond the 250 tons immediately planned. This, he felt, would be made possible through what he termed the "excellent" results being obtained in developing the No. 2 shaft area. This area, he said, looked as though it would prove to be equal to the potentialities of the No. 1 area, the mine's sole producing area to date. Net profit for the five months ended October 31 was reported at approximately $219,000, which compares with a net loss of $4,547 for the whole of the fiscal year ended May 31, last. Production in September and October was better than $100,000 in each month, and this rate was maintained through the first half of November.

SIGNPOSTS FOR BUSINESS

DEPARTMENT store sales in Canada rose 15 per cent during the week ending December 15 as compared with the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures. Alberta led the Dominion in percentage rise with a gain of 28 per cent, followed by Saskatchewan with an increase of 17 per cent, Manitoba 16 per cent, the Maritimes 15 per cent, Ontario 14 per cent, and Quebec 10 per cent. (D.B.S.)

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Coal production in Canada during November amounted to 1,837,500 tons, an increase of 88,800 tons over the 1,748,700 tons produced in the corresponding month last year. Cumulative output for the first 11 months of this year totalled 16,507,500 tons as against 14,100,300 a year earlier. (D.B.S.)

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Average hourly earnings and weekly wages paid to hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading Canadian manufacturers at October 1, 1948, were both at the highest levels in a record covering a period of 48 months. Average hourly earnings of the 806,600 wage-earners for whom a record of man-hours is kept stood at 94.6 cents, an increase of 1.2 cents over the figure reported for September 1, and 11.2 cents above October 1, 1947. Wages paid during the week ended October 1 rose to $40.68 from $38.95 at September 1 and $35.95 a year earlier. In manufacturing as a whole, the wage-earners worked an average of 43 hours during the week ending October 1 as compared with 41.7 hours in the week of September 1 and 43.1 hours a year earlier. Heightened industrial activity, resulting in larger production bonuses and more overtime at premium rates, together with wage increases in a number of important industries, were factors in the increases hourly wage rate.. (D.B.S.)

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Principal field crops produced on Canadian farms in 1948 had a gross value of $1,595 million. This is the highest gross value in a record extending back 41 years. Only once, in 1919, has the $1,500 million level been previously exceeded, This year's wheat crop is valued at $550.4 million, an increase of $95 million over last year's level. While the average price of 1948 wheat is five cents per bushel more than in 1947, most of the increased value accrues from the additional 56.6 million bushels of wheat produced this year. The total value of the oat crop, despite a lower average price, is also up $37 million. (D.B.S.)

Values of 1948 field crop production are in strong contrast with those recorded in the 1930's when values (based on depression prices) ranged from $432 million in 1931 to $68 million in 1939. This year's figure is about 11 per cent above the revised gross value of production for 1947 and some 269 per cent above the low point reached in 1931. While prices of some of the major crops have been lower during the current crop year than in 1947-48, generally sharp increases in the 1948 production of most crops more than offset reduced prices, resulting in the substantial increase over 1947 in total value of production. (D.B.S.)

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Canada's external trade for the first ten months of 1948 had an aggregate value of $4,661,200,000 comparing with $4,435,600,000 for the same period of 1947. Merchandise imports totalled $2,166,800,000 compared with $2,150,700,000, domestic exports $2,465,100,000 compared with $2,25500,000 and foreign exports $29,286,0 as against $29,256,000. (D.B.S.)

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A favorable overall trade balance of $66,000,000 was experienced by Canada in October, slightly above the September figure of $64,400,0 and the highest for any month this year. During the ten months ending with October the favorable balance aggregated $327,600,000, nearly two and a half times the 10-months aggregate of $134,200,000 in 1947. However, there was a small adverse trade balance with the United States during October of $9,700,000 as compared with an adverse balance of $86,200,000. (D.B.S.)

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Labor income in Canada rose sharply to an estimated total $651,000,000 in September from $604,0,000 in August, as a result of increases in employment and a large increase in average earnings due to the payment of retroactive increases to employees of the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railways. The effect of the retroactive increases, totalling some $31,000,000, was reflected throughout the large network of enterprises owned and operated by the railway systems. Employees engaged in the operation of the railways and their shipping services received $22,000,000 of the increase while those employed in locomotive, repair and other related shops, hotels and a number of small establishments accounted for the remainder. During the first nine months of 1948 labor income aggregated $5,142,000,000 as compared with $4,470,000,000, an increase of 15 per cent. (D.B.S.)

New Year Resolutions

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ABOUT INSURANCE

How Regulation By Government And Deposits Protect Insured

By GEORGE GILBERT

There is no other country that comes to mind in which holders of insurance policies are so well protected as they are in Canada against loss through the failure or inability to meet its liabilities in this country of an insurer operating under Dominion registry.

This is due not only to the soundness of the solvency, licence and deposit requirements of our Canadian insurance laws, but also to the efficiency with which the provisions of these ordinances are enforced by the government supervisory officials.

WHILE some rather radical amendments to the existing legislative enactments in Great Britain relating to the transaction of insurance business by private insurers were made in 1946, the provision in the new Act which attracted the most attention on this side of the water was the one abolishing the deposit requirements of the 1909 Act and providing for the withdrawal of existing deposits by companies complying with the higher standard of solvency required by the new law.

At the time it was stated that the abrogation of the system of government deposits was in line with the views expressed by Sir Stafford Cripps, then president of the Board of Trade, on the second reading of the measures in the House of Commons. He said there were very real objections to the earmarking of assets in a particular country for meeting the obligations arising in that country, though that method is followed in the case of many countries. He pointed out that if the total resources are pooled rather than scattered in various countries as government deposits, they would be freely available to meet an emergency wherever it might arise. It is to be noted that the provisions of the new law abolishing deposit requirements and requiring a higher standard of solvency are the same for both home and outside companies.

Unlikely to Change Our Law

Although companies doing business in many countries will agree that it would be advantageous if their total resources were readily available for use whenever needed in an emergency instead of being tied up in government deposits all over the globe, it is altogether unlikely that the example of the socialist government in Britain will be followed either in Canada or the United States, where the present system of government deposit, licence and solvency requirements has proved its value in affording protection to the insuring public.

It must be admitted, however, that very few of those who take out insurance policies of one kind or another realize the extent to which their interests are safeguarded under our Canadian insurance laws. While the need of government regulation and supervision of the insurance was recognized in the United States as early as 1855, when the first government insurance department was established in the state of Massachusetts, it was not until 1875 that Canada followed the lead by setting up the Dominion Insurance Department at Ottawa. Although one of the first acts of the parliament of Canada after Confederation was the passage in 1868 of The Insurance Act of Canada, the administration of the measure had not been the responsibility of any particular government department.

Across the line the father of government supervision of insurance was Elizur Wright, a graduate of Yale College, at one time a professor of mathematics and natural philosophy, and later editor of a daily newspaper in Boston, who was Insurance Commissioner of Massachusetts from 1859 to 1866, and the first to establish a government valuation of policy liabilities of the individual insurance companies for the purpose of ascertaining whether they had sufficient assets to cover the obligations assumed under their policy contracts.

First Valuation Tables

In 1853 he had published his "Valuation Tables on the Combined Experience Rate of Mortality for the Use of Life Insurance Companies." It was probably the first work of the kind published, at least on this continent, and the edition was very limited. The price was $365.00 per copy. An evidence of the remarkable foresight of the author appears in the introduction to the work which has this prediction: "As popular intelligence and refinement advance, life insurance must become a more and more essential part of the social fabric. It will involve a larger portion of the capital of the country, and become the chief treasury of accumulated savings."

In Canada the first Dominion Superintendent of Insurance was Professor J. D. Cherriman, who held a position in the mathematical department of the University of Toronto and also acted as actuary of a new Canadian life company, the Confederation Life Association, up to the time of his appointment. In his first report, issued in 1876, he referred to one of the defects of the Dominion Insurance Act, which was that it required from outside companies only a nominal government deposit which bore no relation to their liabilities in this country, although they transacted more than half of the total business in Canada.

He contrasted this situation with that existing in the United States, where outside companies doing business in the country were required to more than cover their United States liabilities by deposits in the United States. On his recommendation an Act was passed in 1877, requiring that deposits be maintained in Canada by outside companies doing business in this country to the full extent of their Canadian liabilities, and the Act also provided that, in case of the insolvency of an outside company or its failure to pay Canadian claims, the deposit would be used for the protection of its Canadian policyholders to the exclusion of its other policyholders.

However, it was provided in the case of the insolvency of a mutual company that the Canadian policyholders should rank against the deposit only on equal terms with other policyholders. Strange to say, this anomaly in the deposit law remains to this day with respect to the deposits of outside mutual fire insurance companies, while all government deposits of outside mutual life companies are held for the protection of Canadian policyholders exclusively.

Under the law any outside mutual may contract itself out of this exemption by filing with the Minister of Finance a declaration that the deposit in Canada is held solely for the protection of Canadian policyholders, and many have done so, with the result that at the present time there are only about a dozen such organizations doing business in this country whose government deposits are not held for the exclusive protection of Canadian policyholders.

Over a lengthy period the value of these government deposits of outside companies has been amply proved, together with our Canadian solvency and licence laws, and their efficient administration by government insurance officials. During the depression years quite a number of foreign insurers became insolvent, and several of them were doing business in Canada at the time of their failure. But in every case in which their deposits were held for the sole protection of Canadian policyholders there was not a dollar of loss to the Canadian insuring public, as the government deposit in each case was sufficient to take care fully of Canadian liabilities by way of reinsurance with a solvent licensed company.

This record certainly reflects great credit upon Dominion Insurance Department officials, whose supervision and inspection of the affairs of insurers operating in this country under Dominion registry ensures that the deposits and assets in Canada are at all times maintained at a level sufficient to amply take care of their Canadian liabilities.

Fire-fighters at London Airport using Britain's latest equipment. These hoses spray a special gas on the blaze which quickly puts it out. The accompanying truck carries three tons of extinguishing fluid, kept at a very low temperature, which is turned into gas before being ejected.

BOOKS FOR BUSINESS

TOWARDS A DYNAMIC ECONOMICS—by R. F. Harrod—*Macmillan*—$1.85.

MR. HARROD is one of England's most popular writers on economic policy; his writings in the popular papers appear under the name "Roy Harrod." But he is not only a popularizer—he is an economist concerned with thinking out some of the unorganized material which must be thought out if economics is to come of age. This book contains five lectures delivered at the University of London in 1947. He ranges over the contemporary state of economic theory—it is his main contention that there must be a re-thinking of the concepts of "dynamic" economics, as the theorists call it, if economics is to explain the real world. He discusses problems of long-run policy and outlines some aspects of the trade cycle, full employment and international trade. While this book is primarily addressed to the professional economists, a careful reading by the layman will convey some idea of the complexity and the effort directed toward reducing that complexity that is characteristic of postwar economic thinking.

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ERP—THE EUROPEAN RECOVERY PROGRAM—by Seymour E. Harris—*Saunders*—$5.50.

THIS is the first major book of the European Recovery Program; we can be grateful to Professor Harris of Harvard for getting together a great deal of material, analyzing and presenting it in a readable form. After the first half-year of the Program, it is possible to stand back and see just what are the special problems of the Americans in handling this aid scheme and just what are the difficulties over which the whole thing may bog down.

Professor Harris summarizes the particular points that he wants to emphasize in his "Concluding Remarks." He is firmly convinced that over-riding the whole economic difficulty are decisive political and military developments. He warns that sabotage of the E.R.P. by Soviet Russia and her European satellites is entirely possible. The attitudes of the eastern European countries may well determine the amount of purely military aid that will supplement E.R.P.

While Professor Harris thinks that the production of goods by E.R.P. countries is likely to go up, he is doubtful if there will be a determined frontal attack on the central problem—inflation—within each country. The drastic remedies required to cope with inflation have not been forthcoming, and they are not likely to until governments are strengthened. On the international side, the balance of payments remains the greatest difficulty. He thinks it probable that in 1952, when E.R.P. may end, western European nations will have a deficit with hard currency countries.

American planners and policy makers do not come off easily in the study, for Professor Harris feels that they are inclined to over-estimate the effectiveness of devaluation as an inflation cure and payments corrective, while at the same time they abrogate to themselves powers over European economic life which they are ill-equipped to handle. And last of all, he feels that Americans do not realize that E.R.P. will have to be paid for in real terms by the American taxpayer.

This book achieves a fine balance of fact and analysis which appears too infrequently in books on economic policy; it is a book for everyone concerned with reviving world trade by aid to Europe.

• •

THE CONFESSIONS OF A CAPITALIST—by Sir Ernest Benn—*Saunders*—$2.75.

THIS is a new edition of a book now well known—a classic of capitalism. It tells how a large, modern business was built up from small beginnings; it attempts to lay out for analytical purposes the ideas and the methods of one very successful capitalist. Sir Ernst Benn remarks in the preface to this edition: "It is my earnest hope that, in helping to explain the workings of private enterprise to a new generation, this book may encourage that spirit of personal risk and endeavor which never fails to show itself among Englishmen in time of adversity." For English entrepreneurs, this is certainly a time of adversity; perhaps, by the sort of self-examination that a reading of this book brings on, the place of private enterprise and the private enterpriser will be made more clear. The Canadian business men, concerned with not only day-to-day problems of business, but also with the future of the system with which their thinking and their hopes are connected, will find these "Confessions" interesting reading.

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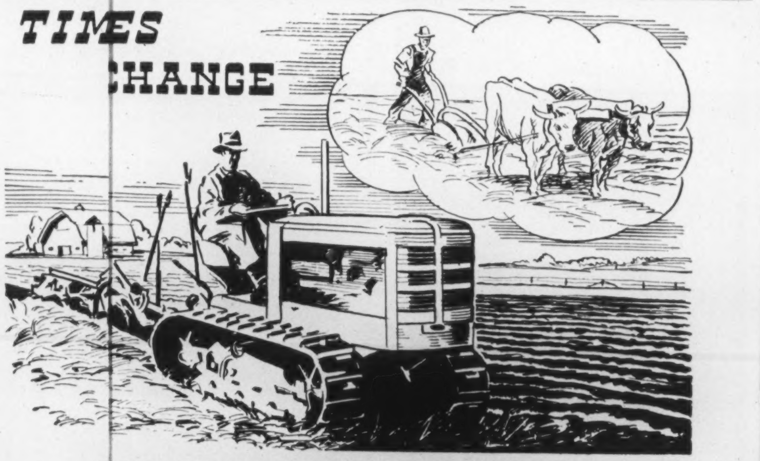

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P2-48

Will British Cars Survive In Canadian Market?

By LARRY ROGERS

The last year has seen a great increase in the number of British and European cars being sold in Canada. Will British, French and Italian car makers be able to hold part of the Canadian market? They have a chance of success if they can reduce prices and generally adapt themselves to the needs of Canadian motorists.

IF YOU'VE seen an Austin or Fiat darting through traffic and pulling out in front of a pack of larger pursuers, you've a good picture of what the European small car has been doing in the Canadian market during the last few months. Last spring few observers thought that the European car had any chance of breaking into the Canadian market—Canadians had been buying American-type cars for forty years or so and there seemed little reason to expect any change.

In the past six months, something of a miracle has taken place—Canadians in that period had purchased some twelve thousand European small cars at a total outlay of more than twenty million dollars. There are several factors that must be considered in assessing this new buying trend. Foremost is the shortage of most American-type cars—a shortage that forces buyers to seek unusual alternatives, such as paying $500 premiums on used cars, or purchasing something entirely new like a Kaiser-Frazer or a European-made vehicle.

These European car-sales should be viewed against the over-all Canadian sales picture. While sale of twelve thousand European cars is many times above any previous year, the figure still represents only about one-tenth of the total new car sales made in Canada during the period.

Even after discounting the sales trend on both these counts, it is still regarded as a very important development by many observers—if only because it has convinced the European manufacturers that they now have a chance to win a share of the Canadian market.

Austin, which seems to have been the first British manufacturer to realize the opportunities in Canada, is the most advanced in its "invasion" program. Austin's new Canadian plant at Hamilton, Ontario is training production teams of Canadian workers, under 200 British technicians, and it is expected that the first Canadian-assembled Austins will be rolling off the line by next spring. (The assembly line, which will be set up by January, embodies much British machinery, brought over from the parent plant.) The Hamilton plant is expected to reach its initial production target of 500 cars a week by next summer. Not all this production is intended for the Canadian market—the new Austin plant will also export to the United States, South America and the Orient.

Since August, 1947, Austin has been building up its sales and service network through the Dominion, and now claims 1,250 dealers from Halifax to Victoria and ranging as far north as the Alaska Highway country. Since last March, when the embargoes on British cars were lifted, Austin dealers have sold more than six thousand passenger vehicles, with October the best month of the season.

Portugal gets ready too. One of three submarines recently sold by Britain is taken over at Gosport.

While Austin has admittedly got the jump on its rivals in the Canadian field during the past year, the others are not lagging far behind. The Rootes group, which makes the Hillman and the Sunbeam-Talbot, entered the Canadian market on a broad scale only last May 29, but has since sold more than one thousand cars, with orders running ahead of deliveries during the past months. Like most British carmakers, the Rootes group had supplied a small Canadian market on the west coast and in Montreal prior to the war, but since last May it has been selling Canada-wide. Today Rootes group dealers and service facilities extend from coast to coast, and the location of an assembly plant some place in Eastern Canada is now being considered.

Another major British manufacturer, the Standard Motor Company, has set up a system of regional distributors and parts depots across Canada. This company is counting on the production of its new Coventry plant, which at 3,000 units a week is rated as Britain's largest, to supply the needs of the Canadian market for the present. Its spokesmen say that it is definitely in the Canadian market to stay, and has invested heavily in building up a very large stock of parts in this country.

The makers of the Morris line have relied on a system of regional distributors across Canada similar to that of Standard-Triumph and report sales of over one thousand units since May, with cars moving "as fast as we can get them".

The Littlest One

Smallest of the small cars is the Fiat, made in Italy and sold in Canada since this spring through a system of provincial and local distributors, with a central parts depot in Montreal. Described as "the prettiest of all small cars", the Fiat is seemingly too dainty for Canadian roads and climate—yet its Ontario distributors last month published an offer of free towing service to any Fiat owner who cannot drive his car on any road where another car can get through.

The British division of Ford has been shipping its Anglia model into Canada during recent months, with sales under direction of British representatives working through the regular Ford distribution set-up. Almost 10,000 British Fords were shipped to the United States and Canada this summer.

Long-term success of European cars on the Canadian market hinges on many points. In the low-priced mass sales field, the European car is smaller than it needs to be for Canadian tastes. Here, large American-type cars are not penalized as they are in Europe by steeply-rising licence fees based on wheel base and engine size. On the other hand, Canadians value economy of operation possibly more than do Americans, and the small European car can win friends here on its low gasoline-oil-service costs.

Per pound, American low-priced cars are much cheaper than European cars today—the man who buys a Ford or Chevrolet definitely gets a bigger, flashier car for his money than the man who buys an Austin of comparable price. On the other hand, European cars should be able to reduce their prices considerably once they have Canadian assembly facilities, lower retail markups and less costly shipping conditions.

St. James's Street, London, where some of the world's oldest established businesses are to be found, provides evidence of reconstruction opposite the Palace of St. James. Damage was caused in the "little blitz", 1944.

On the question of roadworthiness, European car representatives say that their postwar export models are specifically designed to cope with Canadian road and weather conditions. Exhaustive road tests in ice, deep snow and heavy gravel have, they claim, been unable to slow down their cars. On the other hand, from western Canada come reports that British trucks proved unsuccessful off the highways because their wheel tread was too narrow to fit into the ruts of the prairie trails.

All these factors and quite a few more, like trade-in values, and U.S. car production, will play their parts in deciding the destiny of the European car in Canada during 1949 and after — in determining whether the 1948 season was just a flash in the pan, or a dawning light on the horizon.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

ALLAN E. ARSCOTT, C.B.E., has been elected chairman of the board of directors of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Stanley M. Wedd succeeds Mr. Arscott as president.

•

THE APPOINTMENT of Robert E. Oliver as assistant director of public relations, Ford Motor Co. of Canada, Ltd., was announced recently by Gordon C. Garbutt, director of the division. Mr. Oliver joined Ford of Canada last May as research manager of the public relations division. Previously he was assistant public relations manager, Bank of Montreal.

•

BOLTON SULLIVAN, president, Skiltools, Ltd., announces that, effective November 1, 1948, W. H. Ferry was promoted from secretary-manager to vice-president of Skiltools, Ltd., and that D. J. Walker has been appointed secretary-manager. Mr. Ferry will be transferred to the Chicago plant, and will, in the future, divide his time between Chicago and Canadian operations.

•

S. H. LOGAN, chairman of the board of directors of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, has retired after 52 years of active service in the institution, 23 years of which were spent as a high executive officer at the bank's Head Office. Mr. Logan remains a director of the bank.

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The year was 1866...

. . . the leaders in Canada's confederation movement met in London and argued a knotty problem: *what to name the new nation.* "Colony" fell far short of suiting the temper of Canadian thinking. It is recorded that Sir Leonard Tilley of New Brunswick finally pointed out the aptness of the biblical quotation:

"He shall have dominion also from sea to sea."

There is a lesson for every Canadian in this story from the past. By the very origin of the name, "Dominion" can never mean "domination." "Domination" would never be accepted by Canadians. But the Dominion of Canada is the Dominion of a free people . . . men and women who are privileged to express their will through the ballot box.

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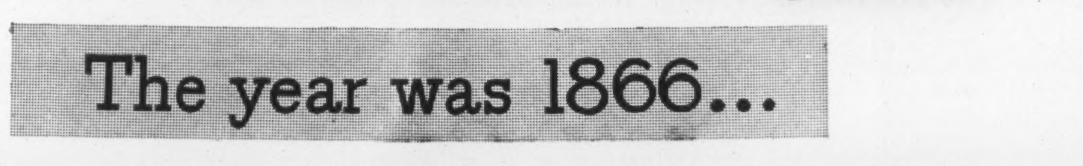

Waterfront of the Town of York (now Toronto) in 1832
Gooderham & Worts Mill in foreground

B.C.'s Political Marriage Is Holding But Shakily

By GLENN McDOUGALL

Fear of greater C.C.F. emergence keeps the Liberals and Progressive Conservatives in a coalition. However, there have been recent signs that the future of the coalition is by no means certain. For one thing, the federal organization of the Progressive Conservatives do not like the idea of their B.C. elements being submerged by identity with Premier Byron Johnson's Liberal party.

BRITISH COLUMBIA Liberals and Progressive Conservatives, whose union in a Coalition government back in 1941 was something of a shotgun marriage, have decided to remain in political wedlock a while longer despite signs of marital strain.

The decision to forego divorce proceedings at this time was prompted in part by the strong showing made by the C.C.F. party in two November 29 provincial by-elections. In the traditionally safe riding of South Okanagan, the government candidate emerged victorious by a 4918 to 4220 vote. But in Rossland-Trail the C.C.F. won out by the close vote of 4748 to 4490.

Party standing, as the result of the two by-elections, is as follows: Coalition 34 (19 Liberals, 16 Progressive Conservatives), C.C.F. 11, Independent Labor 1, Labor 1.

Almost immediately after the by-elections, Premier Byron Johnson and his Tory minister of finance, Herbert Anscomb, issued a joint statement announcing the two parties would continue their political union.

There have been numerous signs of unrest in the Coalition family in recent months. Sometimes the squabbles were aired quite publicly. Mr. Anscomb, who leads the provincial Progressive Conservatives, told a party gathering at Saanich recently: "Unless our party is strong the Liberals will brush us aside. And I'll say that if we are strong and they are not, we'll brush them aside."

"Unhappy? Get Out!"

Mr. Anscomb's frank statement was matched by Capt. D. J. Proudfoot, president of the Victoria Liberal Association. Said he: "Any time the Conservatives feel unhappy in the Coalition they can get out. The Liberals can carry the country without them."

This marital unrest reached its climax immediately before the two by-elections when the Young Liberal Association of British Columbia went on record favoring the dissolution of the Coalition. Delegates to an association meeting at Harrison Hot Springs, B.C. said embarrassingly harsh things about the Coalition government. One delegate, Russ Leask of Powell River, called the Coalitionists "a party of fear," adding: "We were a bunch of cowards (when the Liberals coalesced). . . I used to be able to say what Liberalism stood for. I don't know now what we stand for except to keep the C.C.F. out."

Don Lanskill of the University of British Columbia Liberals declared: "The Tory tail has got to stop wagging the Liberal dog. This political abortion . . . today . . . is helping only the C.C.F. party."

This political squabbling undoubtedly showed itself in the two by-elections. The Vancouver *Daily Province* sympathized editorially with Premier Byron Johnson, characterizing him as a man "trying to lead a cause while his followers brawled, name-called and spit at each other in the rear ranks." Many attributed the Coalition victory in South Okanagan to a last minute campaign tour of the riding undertaken by Premier Johnson and Mr. Anscomb.

Coalition Beginnings

British Columbia's Coalition government was formed in 1941 when none of the three major parties was able to command a majority in the provincial house following a general election. T. D. Pattullo was ousted as premier and replaced by Hon. John Hart, formerly minister of finance in the Pattullo Liberal administration.

In the period that followed, British Columbia received good government. The Coalitionists went to the people in 1945 and were returned to office by an overwhelming majority. Five by-elections were held subsequently and in each case the government was victorious. Although minor strains developed in the Coalition family from time to time there was no real difficulty until this past year. Two factors are probably the basis of the present unrest—the retirement last winter of Hon. John Hart and the re-emergence of the federal Progressive Conservative party under George Drew.

As long as Mr. Hart was at the helm, things went well within the Coalition. His right to leadership was unchallenged by any member of the government. The present premier, Mr. Johnson, finds himself in a less secure position. The efforts of Mr. Drew to build up Progressive Conservative strength across the country is also playing a part in upsetting the Coalition apple-cart. Mr. Drew has indicated that his B.C. followers are not altogether happy with the Coalition. It might be pointed out it is not to his advantage to have the B.C. Progressive Conservative party submerged in a predominantly Liberal government. National party organization in B.C. is bound to suffer under such an arrangement.

—Photo by William Carrick

COVER ARTIST. Gloria Jefferies who did the carving used on this week's issue is youngest member of the Canadian Sculptor Society.

The future of the Coalition, despite the recent pronouncements of Premier Johnson and Mr. Anscomb, remains uncertain. Soon or later the two parties will reach the crossroads and will have to make a decision. There are many in British Columbia who would like to see the two parties come together on a permanent basis. They feel there is no essential difference between the Liberals and the Progressive Conservatives. Both stand for free enterprise and are opposed to the Socialist doctrines of the C.C.F.

The big obstacle to permanent amalgamation is the difficulty of the two parties uniting on a provincial level and fighting each other on a federal level. Party organization of one or the other of the groups would inevitably suffer.

Another suggestion has been made that the parties should campaign separately, but only after a new voting system is adopted. Use of the transferable ballot or some similar device, it is believed, would permit the Liberals and Conservatives to run against each other without splitting the vote and allowing the C.C.F. to gain power. Liberals, presumably, would mark the Tory candidate as their second choice on the ballot and Conservatives would adopt a similar practice. Whatever merit this plan might have disappears, however, upon examination of the present political complexion in British Columbia. It is extremely doubtful whether either the Liberals or Progressive Conservatives could normally gain a clear-cut majority in the 45-seat legislature. The two parties would be forced into miserable wedlock immediately after each election.

B.C. voters would probably tire of such an arrangement. Reluctant to see the Grits and Tories so unhappy, they might ultimately decide to "live dangerously" and elect the C.C.F. to power.

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A Red Dean is not the only innovation which Canterbury has seen during the centuries. Here a modern, pre-fabricated shopping centre has been erected almost within the shadows of the famous Cathedral.

FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

History, Economics and Invention Make the Massey-Harris Story

By B. K. SANDWELL

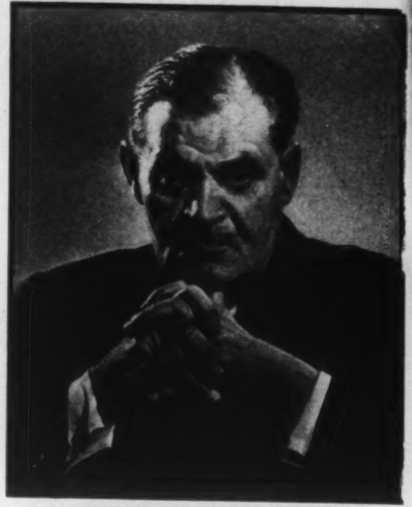
THERE are not many writers who can impart to the history of a business organization the glamour of romance which can easily be imparted to the history of a sovereign state or even a sovereign province. Politics throws up more picturesque personalities than business, and the issues with which it deals are apt to appear more thrilling, though whether they are really so is perhaps open to question. A sovereign state can make war, and a company as a rule cannot, though there are of course exceptions in the great Chartered Companies like those of India and Hudson Bay.

But there is probably no living writer in North America today who can develop the glamour of a business better than our own Canadian, Merrill Denison, who has for years been doing that sort of thing in book and radio in New York; and the Massey-Harris Company Limited made no mistake when it authorized him to write a book on the history of its hundred-year-old business, which had its beginning when Daniel Massey in 1847 formed a partnership with R. F. Vaughan for the manufacture of agricultural implements at Bond Head in Durham County, seventeen miles west of Cobourg. Vaughan withdrew after six months, Bond Head declined and disappeared before the advent of the railway and the growth of adjacent towns with better harbor facilities, but the name of Massey still appears in the title of what has become one of the world's greatest industrial corporations, with markets in every quarter of the globe and with a net profit after taxes which has been known to exceed four million dollars in a single year. The history of the process which converted a little village machine shop and foundry into a vast group of industries, and the names of Massey and Harris into a household word wherever land is tilled, was a subject which was made to order for Mr. Denison's pen, and he has obviously revelled in his task. The resultant volume bears the appropriate title of "Harvest Triumphant" (McClelland & Stewart, $3.50).

The name of Harris comes after that of Massey for chronological reasons alone. Alanson Harris, mechanic and millwright, turned to implement making only in 1857, but when the great merger took place in 1891 the firm of A. Harris, Son and Co. of Brantford had just achieved a success in solving the problem of making an "open-end" binder without a backboard to limit the length of the straw, a success which made their company at one stride the chief and most dangerous competitor of the Massey enterprise. The period was one in which the economies of large-scale production and distribution were beginning to cut an important figure in industrial calculations, and before the end of that year another amalgamation brought into the group two other smaller concerns, with the names of Patterson and Wisner, and made possible a general reduction of the whole price list of agricultural implements, while making Massey-Harris the outstanding example of the policy of marketing a full line of implements, at a time when almost all other producers were specializing on a particular type. "Once accepted, it was seen to hold incalculable benefits; among these were sustained factory production, steadier all-the-year-round employment, the broadening of the local agent's economic base, and for the farmer, the opportunity to secure all his machinery from a single source."

Invention and Agriculture

The history of this business is only in small part a history of finance and corporate management. It is mainly a history of invention, and partly a history of agriculture and of general economic conditions, Canadian and worldwide. An excellent light opera could be built around the astounding episode of the triumph of the Massey machines in the great field trials in connection with the Paris Exposition of 1889, and the big scene of the second act would shift back to Manitoba and show one of the great "delivery days" when all the implements ordered by farmers in a hundred-mile area were unloaded from the special train which had carried them, hauled through the main street of the town which served the area, and finally turned over to their happy purchasers at a banquet in the local hotel, with speeches by the mayor, the local M.P. and a Massey director.



—Photo by Karsh.

MERRILL DENISON

Mr. Denison knows his show business, and the gusto with which he describes the definitely Barnum-and-Bailey salesmanship methods of those glorious days is quite unforced. If the opera could be extended to cover a couple of subsequent generations, somewhat in the manner of the Ring of the Nibelungs, it might wind up with another spectacular scene of the Massey-Harris Harvest Brigade of 1944, when there left Toronto a train of thirty flat cars carrying the first instalment of an army of five hundred "big, new, shiny, red self-propelled combines" which were to work first on the flax fields of Texas and then to move north through oats, wheat and maize. "For four months the battle lines moved northward, garnering upwards of 500,000 bushels every working day", with fuel and repair depots at strategic points, with scouts going ahead to report on crop conditions, with radio linking the whole vast operation together, until "the long campaign came to a halt at the Canadian border, 1,500 miles from its starting point."

Interest in the Arts

The interest of the Massey family in the arts, which has brought such immense benefits to Toronto and indeed to Canada in general, began at an early stage of the family fortunes, and was at first subsidiary to their interest in the marketing of their products. The *Massey Pictorial* started in 1875, was probably, according to Mr. Denison, the first example of institutional advertising. It was succeeded by *Massey's Illustrated*, and later by *Massey's Magazine*, and all these showed considerable literary and pictorial ambition and an ardent Canadianism which led to the publication of work by Roberts, Carman, Duncan Campbell Scott, Gilbert Parker, W. H. Drummond and Peter McArthur and a whole string of well known Canadian artists. It is easy to detect in these efforts the source of the inspiration for Hart House and for the great work that Mr. Vincent Massey has done for Canadian art and letters.

Mr. Denison's knowledge of the economic history of the continent is large and reliable, and provides an excellent background for the narrative. He has had access to an immense amount of documentation, and has not wholly ignored the occasional episode in which the company incurred criticism or dislike. The only error we have detected is the spelling of Bliss Carman as Carmen.

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